

MILITARY

Soldiers share their memories of unusual mandatory briefings

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A military family, divided

After deportation, a Marine veteran's wife searches for a future

I refuse to let this situation take away my hope.

Alejandra Juarez

Alejandra Juarez and her daughter, Estela, tour Mexico's Yucatan on Aug. 31. Alejandra was deported from the U.S. to Mexico on Aug. 3.

DIANNA CAHN/Stars and Stripes

BY DIANNA CAHN
Stars and Stripes

For a few days, things are almost routine. Alejandra Juarez lies in bed at night and waits for sleep, listening to the monotonous whisper of the air conditioner and cuddling her 9-year-old, Estela, who has rejected her own bed in her new unfamiliar world.

Since moving into their apartment a week earlier, Alejandra rises at dawn to make Estela food, then wakes her shortly before 6 a.m. They walk to Estela's new school.

These morning jaunts before the heat builds to insufferable are, well, happy. The two chat and sometimes Estela

skips ahead, doing a little twirl as she tells a story. For a day or two, it seems like maybe they've started something.

As she returns from walking Estela one day, the phone rings and the harsh reality of what's happened comes rushing back.

Pamela, her older daughter, is throwing up, the caller says. Can someone come pick her up from school and take her home?

Until three weeks prior, Alejandra would have been that someone.

But now she is 2,560 miles by car from her 16-year-old daughter in Davenport, Fla.

Alejandra, 39, was deported Aug. 3, leaving behind her home of 22 years, where she and her Iraq War veteran husband, Cuauhtemoc or "Temo," had two American children and planted roots.

Now, they are a family divided.

SEE JUAREZ ON PAGE 6

ABOUT THIS SERIES

Stars and Stripes has covered Alejandra Juarez's journey as she fought for a hearing to reverse her deportation. Now, she's back in Mexico, struggling to start over.

Follow Alejandra's journey from the beginning stripes.com/go/veteranwife



Trump at UN: 2nd summit with N. Korea likely 'soon'

BY JONATHAN LEMIRE
 AND ZEKE MILLER
Associated Press

UNITED NATIONS — Confronting the dangers of North Korea's nuclear threat, President Donald Trump arrived at the United Nations on Monday striking a far less ominous tone than a year ago, announcing he likely will hold a second summit with North Korean Leader Kim Jong Un "quite soon."

Twelve months after Trump stood at the rostrum of the U.N. General Assembly and derided Kim as "Rocket Man," the push to denuclearize the Korean Peninsula is a work in progress, although fears of war have given way to dreams of rapprochement.

The president's bellicose denunciations of Pyongyang have largely given way to hopeful notes. "It was a different world. That was a dangerous time. This is one year later, a much different time. It was a different world," Trump said Monday of his one-time moniker for the North Korean leader.

"That was a dangerous time. This is one year later, a much different time." He added that preparations are underway by Secretary of State Mike Pompeo for a second presidential meeting with Kim "quite soon."

Trump arrived at the U.N. on Monday morning for a meeting on the global drug trade, ahead of a sit-down with South Korean President Moon Jae-in, who comes bearing a personal message to Trump from Kim after their inter-Korean talks last week.

SEE SUMMIT ON PAGE 8

MILITARY

Philippines POW camp recalled at memorial

BY SETH ROBSON

Stars and Stripes

CABANATUAN, Philippines — "They sent us out there to die."

That's how an American veteran recently recalled his time at one of Japan's most notorious prisoner of war camps.

The old soldier's recollection of the Cabanatuan POW camp was retold to former service-members and supporters who gathered there Saturday for POW/MIA Recognition Day.

A convoy of motorcycles led two busloads of people from the Angeles City Veterans of Foreign Wars Post near Clark Air Base to Cabanatuan, where the Japanese had kept people too weak or sick to go to forced labor camps.

The treatment there was harsh, and many POWs died from sickness and starvation or were executed by their captors. The camp was also the site of one of the greatest military rescue operations in history.

The story of the January 1945 raid that saved nearly 500 POWs and civilians from Cabanatuan was told by Angeles VFW Post commander Jim Collins while he stood in front of a wall inscribed with the names of 2,656 POWs and civilians who died at the camp before it was liberated.

Allied forces in the Philippines feared that the Japanese would execute the prisoners once it became clear they were going to be overrun. Gen. Douglas MacArthur authorized a raid



SETH ROBSON/Stars and Stripes

Air Force Col. Larry Card, at lectern, speaks at a POW/MIA Recognition Day event in Cabanatuan, Philippines, on Saturday.

involving the 6th Ranger Battalion, Alamo Scouts, the Army Air Corps, Filipino guerrillas and local villagers, Collins told the veterans. "More than 1,000 people played a role in the raid," he said.

The troops infiltrated 27 miles behind enemy lines to reach the camp, first traveling in trucks and then marching to assault positions nearby, Collins said.

A P-61 Black Widow night fighter distract-ed Japanese guards by performing acrobatics and backfiring its engine before the attack, he said. Only two U.S. troops were lost.

Meanwhile, the guerrillas blocked a bridge and attacked nearby Japanese forces, preventing a counterattack, Collins said. The rescued prisoners were carried on carts pulled by water buffalo and reached American lines on Jan. 31, 1945.

Today all that's left of the camp is the base of its water tower. The remains of POWs who died there were exhumed after the war and reburied at other cemeteries.

John Gilbert, a retired Army first sergeant and past VFW post commander, said veterans are firmly behind efforts to bring fallen troops home.

"A POW from Cabanatuan stayed in the Philippines for two and a half years after the war and retraced the Death March route looking for missing prisoners," he said.

Air Force Col. Larry Card, an A-10 Thunderbolt pilot serving as a military attaché to the Philippines, told the veterans it's important not to forget those left behind on the battlefield.

"Cabanatuan really speaks to our desire to come to the aid of our comrades," he said. "These people came into a Japanese stronghold to rescue 500 prisoners."

"There was no reason that the mission should have been successful. They all came into it thinking it may be their last few days on Earth, and they all said it was worth it."

robert.robson@stripes.com
Twitter: @SethRobson1

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kimmel.kristi@stripes.com

+49 (0) 631-3615-9013

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RELOCATION GUIDE**

Every Friday in the European and Pacific editions
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New sports nutrition shop opens at exchange

BY MARTIN EGASH

Stars and Stripes

GRAFENWOEHR, Germany — The post exchange opened a sports nutrition shop inside its main store at Grafenwoehr on Friday, one of more than 30 that the service plans to set up around the world this year.

The new department within the exchange brings together many items previously displayed in different parts of the store, Army and Air Force Exchange Service officials said.

The shop also stocks several brands of pre-workout powders, protein powders and vitamins not sold before at the exchanges.

Other products not previously available include various protein-enriched foods, such as cookies, popcorn and potato chips.

Because the shops are located in the stores, they will not compete alongside GNC, a nutritional supplement chain that has outlets at some bases.

The exchange nutrition shop has a different variety than GNC stores and includes more types of foods.

To make room for the shop, the exchange in Grafenwoehr reduced the size of the book section and rearranged the department where cellphones were previously sold.

Other exchanges will make room for the new shops in their own way, exchange officials said.

egash.martin@stripes.com
Twitter: @Marty_Stripes

MILITARY



PHOTOS BY MICHAEL ABRAMS/Stars and Stripes

A man walks through the Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery at Romagne-sous-Montfaucon, France, on Sunday following a ceremony marking the 100th anniversary of the World War I Meuse-Argonne offensive.

Remembering Meuse-Argonne

Americans, French mark centennial
of World War I's largest offensive

By MICHAEL ABRAMS
Stars and Stripes

ROMAGNE-SOUS-MONTFAUCON, FRANCE — Strong winds and heavy rains couldn't beat back Americans and French who marked the centennial of America's biggest offensive on Sunday.

With 1.2 million soldiers involved, the World War I Meuse-Argonne offensive was the largest involving U.S. forces. It began on Sept. 26, 1918, and lasted until the guns fell silent with the armistice on Nov. 11 of that year.

About 117,000 were killed or wounded in the battle, which pushed the Germans beyond the Meuse River. Many of the dead — 14,246 — are buried here at Meuse-Argonne American Cemetery, the largest U.S. military cemetery in Europe.

With the flags snapping in the wind and sheets of rain drenching participants and visitors, the ceremony was moved inside the cemetery's small chapel, where people stood rows deep to watch, although most only heard it.

Speakers, including Gen. Curtis M. Scaparrotti, commander of NATO and U.S. forces in Europe, spoke about the bravery, sacrifice

and camaraderie of the American and French soldiers fighting the battle.

"Let it remind us, we are stronger when we face a challenge together," Scaparrotti said. "That when we act as one, we will conquer every challenge and we will deter every aggressor and we will ensure a Europe that is whole and at peace."

Outside, members of French military organizations braved the rain, bearing the Stars and Stripes and other flags. The U.S. Naval Forces Europe Band performed under the colonnade that flanks the chapel.

During the day, volunteers placed candles on each headstone that were to be lit for an evening luminary.

Unfortunately, the rain soaked the candles, and the American Battle Monuments Commission, the organization that runs the cemeteries, had to cancel the event. However, that didn't stop some visitors from walking through the rows of crosses and Stars of David and lighting some of the candles.

abra.ms.mike@stripes.com
Twitter: @stripes_photo



Dressed in World War I-style uniforms, the honor guard marches out of the chapel after the ceremony.



Above: Petty Officer 2nd Class Kristen Gale, of the U.S. Naval Forces Europe Band, plays taps at the ceremony. Right: Candles glow on a row of crosses at the cemetery.



MILITARY



AARON KNOWLES/Stars and Stripes

Army Secretary Mark Esper, right, told soldiers in Kaiserslautern, Germany, on Monday the service plans to allow longer tours before soldiers and their families complete a permanent change of station.

Army to grow its electronic warfare, air defense teams

By AARON KNOWLES
Stars and Stripes

KAIERSLAUTERN, Germany — The Army is adding more personnel to its electronic warfare and air defense teams to keep up with emerging global threats, Army Secretary Mark Esper said following discussions with servicemembers and officials in Germany on Monday.

The Army's transition comes at a time when it is reshaping its force to deal with potential threats from near-peer adversaries like Russia and away from counter-insurgency campaigns that have dominated recent U.S. warfare in Iraq and Afghanistan.

"There are some [capabilities] that need to be restored, such as air defense and electronic warfare, and there are some that need to be added, such as cyber; and we are in the process of doing all of those right now," Esper said during an interview with Stars and Stripes. "We are looking at

adding teams at the corps level. They are going to work cyber, electronic warfare and information warfare."

Earlier this month, the Army announced it would create new short-range air defense and rocket artillery units, which would add about 1,500 soldiers to bases in Europe.

Esper met with base personnel during a public town hall meeting at Pulaski Barracks on Monday and will also be visiting units in Hohenfels, Germany, and Bulgaria during his visit to Europe.

While the Army wants to add capabilities, it will also concentrate on making sure units "are fully fleshed out," Esper said.

The Army is also looking at ways to keep soldiers deployable, Esper said. That includes extended basic training for infantry from 14 to 22 weeks and putting specialists, such as dieticians and physical therapists, directly into maneuver battalions to prevent injury and sickness, he said.

Esper also plans on allowing longer tours before soldiers and their families must complete a permanent change of station, or PCS.

"I would like to slow the PCS churn if you will, by giving soldiers the option to stay in place if they decide," Esper said. "The benefits it gives — we can cite a few — are that you can keep a team together longer. So, rather than a third of a unit cycling out every year, you might be able to keep teams longer."

Details on which soldiers could stay longer and for how long haven't been worked out yet. Esper said he wants to make sure longer tours don't mean career stagnation.

"And I do think that we want an Army, we want [noncommissioned officers] and officers to have a broad-based experience of the Army, so we have to weigh all that out," Esper said.

knowles.aaron@stripes.com
Twitter: @AKStripes

4 hurt when Stryker goes over cliff

KITTITAS, Wash. — Authorities say four people were hospitalized after an armored vehicle went over a 25-foot cliff during a military exercise in central Washington state.

The green and tan 2018 Military Stryker crashed about 4:30 a.m. Saturday on an unnamed dirt road near Kittitas. The driver, Chance Kennen, 22, of Lecompte, La., told Washington state troopers he didn't see the cliff's end.

The vehicle's front end landed facing the ground,

with the wheels against the cliff.

Kennen was in stable condition at Seattle's Harborview Medical Center.

The passengers went to Virginia Mason Memorial Hospital, where Aaron Arnold, 35, from Medway, Ohio, was listed in fair condition.

Ricardo Ponce, 27, from Mission Hills, Calif., and Kristian Allen, 20, from Jensen, Utah, were treated and released.

No one was wearing a seatbelt. No citations were issued.

From The Associated Press

GIs recall greatest hits, misses of Army unit safety briefings

By WILLIAM HOWARD
Stars and Stripes

Don't shoot anyone on post, don't sleep with your squad mate's spouse, don't snort unknown substances and don't live in your car while collecting rent money from the Army.

The warnings given to soldiers at weekend and holiday safety briefings in recent decades are the stuff of Army lore. As those mandatory briefings became optional or eliminated, the Army has eliminated several administrative requirements recently in a streamlining measure; a few soldiers shared their memories of unusual briefings with Stars and Stripes.

Situational briefings remain at a commander's discretion, and soldiers said they can be useful when there's a critical issue at hand or when a topic is discussed with depth and insight.

But much of what they'd heard over the years could be best summed up as "illegal things are illegal."

"Don't do stupid stuff" was one commander's entire weekly brief, more colorfully put. Others were more long-winded.

Sgt. 1st Class Nancy Lugo, non-commissioned officer in charge of the 10th Support Group public affairs office on Okinawa, Japan, recalled a briefing after she graduated from basic training. The commander talked for 45 minutes, delivering warning after warning, while families stood by waiting.

"My brother spent the weekend making up things to be cautious of like drinking water slowly and looking where you walk so you don't fall down," she said.

While a few weekend safety brief topics may seem strange, they're sometimes brought up due to a soldier's inappropriate behavior.

"Do not forge government paperwork, especially police reports," an Army supply sergeant

told Stars and Stripes. "That's what I did and got caught but first sergeant covered for me. I almost got a (nonjudicial) punishment."

Other times, topics of concern manifested themselves during the weekend safety brief.

Sgt. Elizabeth Harris, with the 14th Public Affairs Detachment at Fort Carson, Colo., remembers when a soldier passed out during a weekend safety brief after the brigade command sergeant major pointed at him.

"He pointed to a new soldier that just joined our unit and said, 'What about you? Are you OK?' After the command sergeant major said that, the soldier fell over," Harris said. "The soldier buckled his knees and hadn't been drinking enough water in the high altitude of Colorado. After that a lot of soldiers didn't want to get pointed out by CSM."

Staff Sgt. David Souther, also stationed at Fort Carson, recalled a Christmas leave briefing in 2007 that was delayed for several hours because the briefers were at a party.

"The company commander and first sergeant didn't come back from their party until (9:30 p.m.) and finally released us after a 20-minute speech," Souther said.

Weekend briefings became optional following a memo signed by Army Secretary Mark Esper, according to a Sept. 4 service statement.

Esper has released at least 13 memos since June that remove requirements for training and administrative tasks in a bid to get soldiers more focused on their primary tasks.

Other dropped requirements include several online training courses, internal audits of dining facility head counts by company commanders, and processing of requests for political asylum and temporary refugee status by individual units.

howard.william@stripes.com
Twitter: @Howard_Stripes



Courtesy of the U.S. Army

A captain gives a briefing on pet safety to the Army boxing team from Wiesbaden, Germany, in 2013. The service's reduction in briefings means fewer chances for memorable odd moments.

WAR/MILITARY

Russia to upgrade Syria's air defense tools

BY NATALIYA VASILYEEVA
Associated Press

MOSCOW — Russia announced Monday it will supply Syria's government with sophisticated S-300 air defense systems after last week's downing of a Russian plane by Syrian forces responding to an Israeli airstrike, a friendly fire incident that stoked regional tensions.

The Russian Il-20 military reconnaissance aircraft was downed by Syrian air defenses that mistook it for an Israeli aircraft, killing all 15 people onboard. Russia laid the blame on Israel, saying Israeli fighter jets had pushed the plane into Syria's line of fire.

While President Vladimir Putin initially struck a conciliatory note, blaming the downing on a "chain of tragic, fatal circumstances," the Russian military reaffirmed its accusations against Israel on Sunday.

Russian Defense Minister Sergei Shoigu announced that the S-300 missile defense systems will be delivered to Damascus within two weeks. Earlier in the week, Russia suspended a supply of S-300s, which Israel feared Syria could use against it.

Shoigu went on television to say that Russia is now going to go ahead with the shipment because "the situation has changed, and it's not our fault."

Shortly after his statement, Putin got a call from Israeli Prime Minister Benjamin Netanyahu and told him that the Russian move was "aimed primarily at fending off any potential threat to the lives of Russian service-



AP

Russia will supply Syria with S-300 air defense missile systems — shown during the Victory Day military parade in Moscow in 2016 — following last week's downing of a Russian plane in Syria.

men," according to a readout of the call issued by the Kremlin.

Shoigu also announced that Russia would equip Syrian air defenses with a new automated control system to enhance its efficiency and help identify Russian aircraft. He said the Russian military will start using electronic countermeasures to jam any aircraft that would try to launch attacks off Syria's coast like the Israeli strike that resulted in the Russian plane's downing.

"We are convinced that these measures will calm down some hotheads and keep them from careless actions which pose a threat to our troops," he said.

There was no immediate comment from Israel on the decision

to supply the missile defenses.

U.S. national security adviser John Bolton said Monday that delivery of the Russian S-300 would be a "significant escalation" in already high tensions in the region, and Secretary of State Mike Pompeo said he would raise the matter this week with his Russian counterpart, Sergey Lavrov, at the U.N. General Assembly.

"We think introducing the S-300s to the Syrian government would be a significant escalation by the Russians and something that we hope, if these press reports are accurate, they would reconsider," Bolton said.

International and regional powers backing various sides in Syria's civil war have been car-

rying out strikes for years, often using special sorties to prevent aerial confrontations.

Israel said its warplanes were targeting a Syrian facility involved in arms shipments to the Iran-backed Hezbollah group. Israel has launched at least 200 strikes at Iranian and Hezbollah facilities in Syria over the past years and has maintained a hotline with the Russian military to prevent any collisions.

Shoigu said that the Israeli military warned Russia about last week's strike just one minute before launching it and claimed it was being conducted in Syria's north. Instead, the Israeli jets targeted the western province of Latakia, putting the Russian warplane in the line of fire.

Russia launched its campaign in Syria to support President Bashar Assad in 2015, eventually turning the tide of war in favor of Syrian government forces. Moscow has tried to maintain good relations with Iran, which is also allied with the Syrian government, and Israel, which is wary of Iran's growing influence in Syria.

Assad's office said the Syrian leader received a call from Putin on Monday and that the two discussed the latest developments, including the downing of the plane and the S-300 delivery. The statement said Assad expressed his condolences for the deaths of the Russian airmen.

Russian officials said Syria's Soviet-made S-200 systems, one of which downed the Russian plane, weren't sophisticated enough to identify the Russian aircraft as a friendly one.

Russian Deputy Foreign Minister Mikhail Bogdanov told Russian news agencies that supplying the S-300 to Syria is Russia's "own right" and expressed confidence that this would not hurt Israel.

The downing of the plane came just hours after Russia announced it had reached a deal with Turkey to avert a Russia-backed Syrian government offensive against the northwestern province of Idlib, one of the last areas still in rebel hands.

Idlib, controlled by a mix of radical groups and Turkey-backed armed opposition, overlooks the Syrian coast, where Russian military and air bases are located. The bases have reportedly come under rebel fire.

Syrian state TV said insurgents shelled a government-controlled crossing east of Idlib on Monday that was reportedly prepared to allow civilians to leave the province.

Concerns are rising in Idlib over the details of the deal and how it will be implemented. The province is home to some 3 million Syrians, half of them displaced by violence in other parts of the country.

Hard-line armed groups have rejected the deal, saying it aims to strip the opposition of weapons and is a victory for Assad's government. On Sunday, tribal leaders and prominent local figures meeting in Idlib said they distrusted Russian mediation, citing Russia's previous cease-fire violations. The conference called on armed groups not to leave the front lines in Syria or hand over their weapons.

Twitter reacts after Japanese police decline offer of water

BY HANA KUSUMOTO
AND CAITLIN DOORNbos
Stars and Stripes

TOKYO — An airman's failed attempt at gifting refreshments to two Japanese police officers made the rounds on social media last week after a Twitter user captured the "heart-warming" interaction.

A 22-year-old Japanese man named Aoki, who declined to provide his full name, said he witnessed the exchange Sept. 16 during the Japanese-American Friendship Festival at Yokota Air Base in western Tokyo. The open-base event invites the public onto the usually restricted grounds for aircraft displays, food vendors, music and other performances.

Aoki said he was walking at Yokota when he noticed three airmen approaching the on-duty Japanese officers with a bottle of water and a sports drink.

Aoki, whose Twitter handle is @Type96aogino, decided to pull out his camera and capture the moment.

"I thought it was heart-warming," he said.

But when an airman tried to



In this screenshot from Twitter, an airman offers cold drinks to Japanese policemen during the annual Japanese-American Friendship Festival at Yokota Air Base, Japan, on Sunday.

hand over the bottles, one of the officers shook his hand apologetically, Aoki said, adding that the

Americans seemed surprised and walked away looking sorry and sad.

Aoki said his photo of the encounter was retweeted about 60,000 times, causing so many

notifications on his Twitter account that he decided to delete it.

"I tweeted these photos because I wanted to know how people would react," Aoki said. "I wanted to know what people had to say."

Most comments were positive, he said. Many people wondered why the officers didn't accept the drinks, while others argued that they should have taken them.

Some — such as Twitter user @tuas_gemmai — said the police were right to decline the gifts.

"They probably figured out that they can't accept anything during duty since they are public servants. (Especially like this time from an U.S. servicemember)," @tuas_gemmai wrote in Japanese.

Aoki, who is also a public servant, said he thought there must be a regulation that banned the officers from taking the drinks. He said you don't see police drinking or eating on duty in Japan.

Tokyo Metropolitan Police officials were unable to comment on the policy by Monday afternoon.

doornbos.caitlin@stripes.com
kusumoto.hana@stripes.com

NATION



DIANNA CAHN/Stars and Stripes

Estela Juarez tells her mother, Alejandra Juarez, a story over lunch at McDonald's on Aug. 30 in Mexico's Yucatan state. Alejandra was deported from the U.S. on Aug. 3, taking her from her husband, an Iraq war veteran, and Estela's older sister, Pamela.

Juarez: Vet's wife wants world to know what deportation looks like

FROM FRONT PAGE

She took Estela with her to Mexico while Pamela, who is closest to her mother, stayed back with her father so he wouldn't be left alone. He needs to continue to work and try to earn enough to support not one household but two.

On this Wednesday, Temo isn't answering his phone. He has a flooring business. He must be at a job. Distracted, Alejandra calls around to friends searching for someone to pick up Pamela. Finally, Temo calls back. He puts work aside and goes to collect their daughter.

But who will hold her hair, make sure she drinks fluids? Who is going to kiss her forehead and make her tea? And how will he ever be able to make enough money for two homes when he was working crazy hours before all this?

She tells herself to hold it together. That someday, her faith in America — the country her husband served as a soldier, the place she chose all those years ago because it offered hope, the one that gave its identity to their two daughters — will be restored. That someday her family will be reunited.

Alejandra wants the world to know this is what deportation looks like. "Maybe if I tell my story I can help someone else," she says.

She prays that she will have the fortitude to show what hope looks like.

"I am just so angry," she says in tears. "I just have to heal so I can get past that and make my life meaningful."

The American dream

Temo and Alejandra met in 2000, two years after she arrived in the United States. Like her, he was from Mexico City.

But he was a Marine who had just completed his service and signed up for the National Guard. He was on a path to citizenship.

She was undocumented. She snuck across the border to escape death threats for reporting a robbery — her assailant, she says, had a relative on the police force.

The couple got married, had a baby and, in 2002, after becoming a U.S. citizen, he deployed to Jordan then to Iraq, returning



DIANNA CAHN/Stars and Stripes

Juarez meets with Esteban Lopez De Nova, executive administrator at the education network in Mexico's Yucatan, where she hopes to study law.

in 2004. She worked hard — learning to be a mom and giving him support.

Temo came back from war changed, she says, and she was patient. She had scrupulously socked away his combat pay and they built a house in Davenport that they both loved, had a second child and adopted a rescue dog named Spot.

Through it all, she always thought of Temo as the tougher one.

But Aug. 3, the day of her deportation, Temo locked himself in the bathroom for a long time. When she finally got him to open the door, she found her husband — her warrior — sobbing uncontrollably. Alejandra knew then that she was going to have to be strong.

"He was like, 'I just can't believe I am going to come home from dropping you off and you are not going to be here,'" she says.

"It's so absurd. What are they benefiting from my deportation? The punishment does not fit the crime."

Long list of banishment

Alejandra eventually lands in a place where she's never been, with few resources. She needs to find somewhere to live and a school for Estela. She needs to find a job and maybe a psychiatrist for both of them. Being ripped from home and family like that is traumatic, she says.

She needs to buy some furniture. But not a TV — she's still hoping she won't be there that long.

But mostly, she needs to figure out how she's going to pay for all of this. She learns quickly that most jobs just pay a few hundred pesos — \$40-\$50 a week.

She worries that she, alone, brought this disaster on her family.

"My kids have never been away from me — not even for one day," she says in a text message. "I hate Trump."

It was Donald Trump's first executive order as president in 2017 that led to her deportation. Until then, Alejandra — military wife with two American children



Courtesy of Alejandra Juarez

Alejandra and Temo Juarez and their daughters Estela, left, and Pamela celebrate Christmas 2017 in Florida.

— was of no interest to immigration authorities. After being flagged in 2013 as undocumented after a routine traffic stop, she checked in with Immigration and Customs Enforcement yearly and otherwise lived her life.

But the order equalized all immigration cases. Suddenly, Alejandra was a priority for deportation.

Alejandra tried to fight it. She and Tema consulted several lawyers, but her case turned out to be complicated. In 1998, when she sneaked across the border, it was her second attempt. The first time, after trying in vain to get a visa into the United States, she hired a coyote — someone to get her across the border — and was captured after lying to the border agent about her status.

Under duress, she said, she signed a document she didn't understand. It was only after 2013 that she learned it barred her from the U.S. for life.

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NATION

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Through lawyers and appeals to lawmakers, Alejandra tried to get her removal order reversed. She was deported before she could get a hearing with a judge.

At home, as she waited for the day of her deportation to arrive, Alejandra couldn't sleep. She just kept thinking about how one of these days, she wouldn't be in her house, with her backyard, her kids, her husband. Instinctively, Spot would jump on her restless legs and calm her.

Now, she lies awake wondering how she's going to build this new life and what this will do to her family, her marriage.

She hears a dog barking in the night. Spot does that. She starts thinking about home again. Her mind races anew.

When she does finally sleep, she often wakes up thinking she's at home, that this is just a bad dream.

Getting settled

The days feel like months. They stay in an inexpensive hotel in the center — the town center. But the air conditioning doesn't work well and the heat — climbing well over 100 degrees with humidity like south Florida — is getting to Estela.

So they find an international hotel with good air conditioning, a pool and a discounted rate. Even so, she is quickly going through money raised on their behalf on a GoFundMe page started when the deportation began to look inevitable. She spends her days looking for an apartment with the help of the tour coordinator at the hotel — a single mother with a girl Estela's age.

Landlords don't want to rent to her because she has no rental history in Mexico, no job prospects, no local bank account.

"People see me as foreign," she writes in a text. "I feel country-less."

Temo and Pamela fly down the first week after Alejandra was deported. But his support for Trump — publicized in news reports — drew some harsh backlash in Mexico, where people are still stinging from Trump's repeated insults.

She finally finds an apartment. It is taking more time to find a private school for Estela that teaches some English. She doesn't have all of her daughter's Mexican documentation and can't travel hundreds of miles to Mexico City right now to get it.

Finally, an English-speaking school accepts Estela and agrees to let them produce the documentation later.

Alejandra realizes she has to stop hoping to go back to the U.S. or she won't be able to get settled here.

"If my daughter keeps seeing me crying, it's no good," she says. "I need to move on. To build a life. I can't keep waiting for the day I can come back."

During his visit, Temo buys them a television.

'I want to go back'

Estela, who is tiny for her age, is not eating much of her mother's cooking. The vegetables don't taste the same, the little girl says, and her mother worries that she can't feed her fast-food forever.



PHOTOS BY DIANNA CAHN/Stars and Stripes

Estela Juarez chats via WhatsApp from Mexico with her older sister, Pamela, in Florida on Aug. 30.

On a recent afternoon, Alejandra picks up Estela from school and takes her to Chili's for lunch. The girl is happy, biting into her chicken sandwich, chatting about the kids at school. She doesn't speak Spanish, but growing up she has picked up a lot.

She's made seven new friends, she says. They like the fact that she speaks English well, but after she aced her first Spanish test — "it was the easiest one" — they wonder if she is faking it, she says, rolling her eyes in mock drama before offering up a smile.

Then, without skipping a beat, she says: "I miss my sister. I miss my dad. I miss my dog."

She takes another bite of her sandwich.

"Every day she says, 'I want to go back. Why couldn't you stop at the border and say, 'I want to go home?'" Alejandra says.

"She wants her pretty room, her school, her life. You know?"

Life inching forward

The apartment is a clean two-bedroom townhome with a modern kitchen and air-conditioning units in each room. Alejandra does laundry by hand in a sink off a small terrace.

But it is sterile, cold. There are no pictures, no books or magazines or knickknacks — the things that declare a life being lived.

She and Estela walk 20 minutes to school every morning, but by the time classes are over, it's too hot for that. Alejandra walks to pick her up then calls a taxi to take them home.

After she arrives Estela to school, she waits in the long lines of Mexican bureaucracy. To get her ID card. To open a local bank account, which she couldn't do until she had an ID.



Nikala Asante, left, helps Alejandra Juarez set up a blog page in Mexico's Yucatan on Aug. 31 so she can write about her experiences being deported.

She visits a private university in the area. She believes that if she can study law one day a week — maybe two — she could earn a real living and make something of herself.

She does the math: the cost of an apartment, bills, Estela's school and supplies, groceries, transportation, the occasional doctor or dentist. School for herself. How will she and Temo ever pay for all this, she wonders.

"Sometimes I think I never should have gone there," she says of the United States.

"But if I hadn't, I wouldn't [have] Estela and Pamela. Or gotten a high school (equivalent) degree," she says. "The best things I got in my life, I got there. My kids, my husband. I was never going to build a house like that."

Inseparable

Alejandra likes to tell the girls this story: When Estela was born,

Pamela, 7, came to see them in the hospital and said, "Now my body is complete."

They've been devoted to each other ever since.

Pamela, who has always been shy, came out of her shell to help her mother fight deportation. When Alejandra took the girls to Washington to pound on doors, Pamela spoke at a press conference with their congressman, Darren Soto, D-Fla., outside the Capitol, urging action to help keep her mother at home.

She spoke again at the Orlando, Fla., airport the day her mother was deported. And when Soto asked her to participate in a campaign rally ahead of his re-election in late August, she took the stage for the first time without her mother present.

"I have been 22 days without my mom," Pamela told the gathering. "We were really close, so her departure has left a big hole in me."

'If my daughter keeps seeing me crying, it's no good. I need to move on. To build a life. I can't keep waiting for the day I can come back.'

Alejandra Juarez
deported wife of Marine veteran

She then told her mother — who could not have been more proud — that she is no longer shy.

Two days later, Pamela is at home throwing up, her mother in Mexico wringing her hands with worry.

"Do you need a doctor?" she asks her daughter. "You have to drink liquids because when you throw up you lose a lot of liquids. You have crackers?"

"I love you Mom." "I know, I miss you a lot. I wish I was there." "I am sorry," Alejandra adds.

Finding her voice

With her deportation looming, Alejandra's instinct was to publicly fight back hard. The spotlight and the stigma, however, can be harsh.

Some friends she and Temo have known for years no longer talk to her. Even some relatives have been less than kind, judging her poorly and questioning her wisdom for being so vocal. The negative response weighs on her husband, who has taken heat for voting for Trump.

Now she is more private. Leery of backlash, she does not share the name of the city where she lives and has taken a different version of her name. People she meets offer help and connections. But she just thanks them. She's not up for all that. She's inclined to hunker down with Estela and figure things out one day at a time.

"I don't want to make friends," she says. "I need to grieve."

Still, she won't be silent.

In the months leading up to her departure — when she still believed it would not happen — she looked for books on how to deal with deportation. There were plenty on the bookstore shelves about fighting the process. But she could find none about how to cope with deportation.

She decided that if and when the time came, she would write about her ordeal.

She's started a blog in Mexico, "Finding Hope after Deportation."

"I never thought I could survive being deported and being away from my oldest daughter," she writes in the first entry. "It turns out you are stronger than you may think."

In her latest entry, she writes about the many emails and social media posts she has received since her story went public. Some share similar stories; others fault her for fighting back.

"I know firsthand the feeling of despair and humiliation so as I was reading their stories I could not help but cry and cry," she writes. "I know now what a deportation does to a human being, to our families, to our kids. It can steal your dignity and happiness, at least temporarily if you let it. And worse, it can steal your hope and faith."

"I refuse to let this situation take away my hope," she declares. "For my girls. For us. For those who have and still reach out to me daily to share their story, share their pain."

She says she doesn't know how she will manage. She only knows that she has to believe she will.

Cahn.diana@stripes.com
Twitter: @DiannaCahn

NATION

Rosenstein, under fire, to meet with Trump on Thursday

By DEVLIN BARRETT, ASHLEY PARKER, CAROL D. LEONIG AND ROSALIND S. HELDERMAN

The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein will stay in the job for now, but will meet with President Donald Trump on Thursday, White House officials said Monday, after officials described a series of private discussions that pointed to his resignation or firing.

"At the request of Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein, he and President Trump had an extended conversation to discuss the recent news stories," said White House spokeswoman Sarah Huckabee Sanders. "Because the president is at the United Nations General Assembly and has a full schedule with leaders from around the world, they will meet on Thursday when the President returns to Washington, D.C."

The announcement capped a tense few hours after officials said Rosenstein had told White House officials over the weekend that he was willing to resign in the wake of revelations that he once suggested secretly recording Trump.

On Monday morning, White

House officials said Rosenstein had offered to resign to quell the controversy, while Justice Department officials said he had no intention of resigning but was heading to the White House with the expectation he would be fired.

After Rosenstein met with White House Chief of Staff John Kelly, he proceeded to a meeting of senior administration officials, indicating that at least for the moment he was staying on the job.

Rosenstein has been overseeing the investigation of special counsel Robert Mueller, who is looking into Russian interference in the 2016 presidential campaign and whether any Trump associates conspired with those efforts. It wasn't immediately clear what Rosenstein's departure might mean for that investigation, or who would oversee it, although the role could naturally fall to Solicitor General Noel Francisco.

Amid the conflicting accounts of whether Rosenstein would resign, be fired, or still be in his job at the end of the day, it was clear that his position at the Justice Department had never been more tenuous.

One Trump adviser said that



Deputy Attorney General Rod Rosenstein speaks during a news conference at the Department of Justice in Washington on July 13. Rosenstein is to meet with President Donald Trump on Thursday amid reports he may be fired or resign.

the president has not been pressuring Rosenstein to leave, but that his resignation was a topic of private discussions all weekend. The person said Rosenstein had expressed to others that he should resign because he "felt very compromised" and the controversy hurt his ability to oversee the Russia inquiry, said a person close to Trump.

Rosenstein has been the target

of Trump's public ire and private threats for months, but uncertainty about his future deepened after it was revealed Friday that memos written by Andrew McCabe when he was FBI deputy director said that in May 2017, Rosenstein suggested secretly recording the president and trying to muster support for invoking the 25th Amendment to replace him.

Summit: Weapons, trade, 'America First' on Trump's UN agenda

FROM FRONT PAGE

Trump and Moon are expected to sign a new version of the U.S.-South Korean trade agreement, one of Trump's first successes in his effort to renegotiate trade deals on more favorable terms for the U.S. Even so, some U.S. officials worry that South Korea's eagerness to restore relations with the North could reduce sanctions pressure on Kim's government, hampering efforts to negotiate a nuclear accord.

The nuclear threat was on the agenda at Trump's first meeting in New York, a dinner with Japanese Prime Minister Shinzo Abe in Manhattan on Sunday night. Abe stands first among world leaders in cultivating a close relationship with the president through displays of flattery that he has used to advance his efforts to influence the unpredictable American leader.

"We have our eyes wide open," Pompeo told NBC's "Meet the Press" on Sunday. "There is a long ways to go to get Chairman Kim to live up to the commitment that he made to President Trump and, indeed, to the demands of the world in the U.N. Security Council resolutions to get him to fully denuclearize."

Redoubling his commitment to "America First" on the most global of stages, Trump will stress his dedication to the primacy of U.S. interests while competing with Western allies for an advantage on trade and shining a spotlight on the threat he says Iran poses to the Middle East and beyond.

Scores of world leaders, even those repre-

wary of Trump, in the 12 months since his last visit to the U.N., the Republican president has jolted the global status quo by pulling out of the Iran nuclear deal, starting trade conflicts with China and the West and embracing Russian President Vladimir Putin even as the investigation into the U.S. president's ties to Moscow moves closer to the Oval Office.

Long critical of the United Nations, Trump delivered a warning shot ahead of his arrival by declaring that the world body had "not lived up to its potential."

"It's always been surprising to me that more things aren't resolved," Trump said in a weekly video message, "because you have all of these countries getting together in one location but it doesn't seem to get there. I think it will."

Nikki Haley, the U.S. ambassador to the United Nations, told reporters in a preview of Trump's visit that the president's focus "will be very much on the United States," its role and the relations it wants to build.

"He is looking forward to talking about foreign policy successes the United States has had over the past year and where we're going to go from here," she said. "He wants to talk about protecting U.S. sovereignty while building relationships with nations that share those values."

In his four-day visit to New York, Trump will deliver major speeches and meet with representatives of a world order that he has so often upended in the past year. On Monday he participated in a Global Call to Action on the World Drug Problem and later was to meet with Egyptian President Abdel-Fattah el-Sissi

and French President Emmanuel Macron in addition to Moon.

Trump's address to the General Assembly comes Tuesday, and on Wednesday he will for the first time chair the Security Council, with the stated topic of nonproliferation of nuclear, chemical and biological weapons. The subject initially was to have been Iran, but that could have allowed Iranian President Hassan Rouhani to attend, creating a potentially awkward situation for the U.S. leader.

Aides say the president will also use the session to discuss North Korea and other proliferation issues. While Trump is not seeking a meeting with Rouhani, he is open to talking with the Iranian leader if Rouhani requests one, administration officials said.

In meetings with European leaders as well as during the Security Council session, Trump plans to try to make the case that global companies are cutting ties with Iran ahead of the reimposition in five weeks of tough sanctions against Tehran. The penalties are a result of Trump's decision to withdraw the U.S. from the 2015 Iran nuclear deal.

Trump at the time cited Iran's role as a malign force in the region, particularly its support of terrorist groups, but also its involvement in Syria. U.S. officials say their priority for the region now is removing Iranian forces from Syria.

Trump is also expected to deliver a fresh warning to Syria's Bashar Assad that the use of chemical weapons against civilians in the rebel stronghold of Idlib would have serious repercussions.

US, China escalate tariffs war

By JOE McDONALD
Associated Press

BEIJING — China and the United States imposed new tariff increases on each other's goods Monday and Beijing accused Washington of bullying, giving no sign of compromise in an intensifying battle over technology that is weighing on global economic growth.

U.S. regulators went ahead with a planned 10 percent tax on a \$200 billion list of 5,745 Chinese imports including bicycles and furniture. China's customs agency said it responded at noon by beginning to collect taxes of 5 or 10 percent on a \$60 billion list of 5,207 American goods, from honey to industrial chemicals.

The conflict stems from President Donald Trump's complaints that Beijing steals or pressures foreign companies to hand over technology.

American officials say Chinese plans for state-led development of global competitors in robotics and other technologies violate its market-opening obligations and might erode U.S. industrial leadership.

China's leaders offered to narrow their politically sensitive, multibillion-dollar trade surplus with the United States by purchasing more natural gas and other American exports. But they have rejected pressure to change industry plans the communist leadership sees as a path to prosperity and global influence.

Monday's tariff increases follow a report by the Wall Street Journal that Chinese officials pulled out of a meeting to discuss possible talks proposed by Washington. The Chinese government had given no public indication whether it would accept the invitation.

Envoy last met Aug. 22 in Washington but reported no progress.

With no settlement in sight, forecasters say the conflict between the two biggest economies could trim global growth through 2020.

On Monday, the ratings agency Fitch cut its forecasts for next year's Chinese and global economic growth by 0.1 percentage points to 6.1 percent and 3.1 percent, respectively.

"The trade war is now a reality," said Fitch's chief economist, Brian Coulton, in a report. "The downside risks to our global growth forecasts have also increased."

Earlier, the two sides imposed 25 percent penalties on \$34 billion of each other's goods in July and another \$16 billion in August. Business groups say American companies also report Chinese regulators are starting to disrupt their operations through slower customs clearance and more environmental and other inspections.

NATION

3D gun advocate jailed in sex-with-minor case

By PAUL J. WEBER
Associated Press

AUSTIN, Texas — The owner of a Texas company that sells plans to make untraceable 3D-printed guns was back in the U.S. on Sunday after being arrested in Taiwan, where police say he flew after learning he was being investigated on suspicion of having sex with an underage girl.

The U.S. Marshals Service said Cody Wilson, 30, was booked into Harris County Jail in Houston early Sunday and was being held on \$15,000 bond.

He was arrested Friday at a hotel in Taiwan by local police. He is facing sexual assault charges in Austin, according to a statement from the U.S. Marshals service.

Authorities said Wilson met the girl through the website Sugar-DaddyMeet.com. According to an affidavit, the girl said they met in the parking lot of an Austin coffee shop in August and then drove to a hotel. The girl told investigators that Wilson paid her \$500 after they had sex and then dropped her off at a Whataburger restaurant.

"We are glad that Cody is back in Texas again, where we can work with him on his case. That's

our focus right now," Wilson's attorney, Samy Khalil, said in a statement Sunday night.

Wilson is the owner of Austin-based Defense Distributed. Nineteen states and the District of Columbia had sued the Trump administration to dissolve a settlement it reached with the company over allowing it to disseminate its designs for making a 3D-printable gun. The lawsuit by mostly Democratic state attorneys general argued that such weapons could be used by criminals or terrorists.

A federal court last month barred Wilson from posting the designs online for free. He then began selling them for any amount of money to U.S. customers through his website.

Wilson, a self-described "crypto-anarchist," has said "governments should live in fear of their citizenry."

Law enforcement officials worry the guns are easy to conceal and are untraceable because there's no requirement for the firearms to have serial numbers. Gun industry experts have said the printed guns are a modern method of legally assembling firearms at home without serial numbers.



Cody Wilson, with Defense Distributed, holds a 3D-printed gun called the Liberator at his shop Aug. 1 in Austin, Texas. Wilson is facing sexual assault charges.

ERIC GAY/AP



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NATION

Congress set to fund government, but not Trump's border wall

By MATTHEW DALY
AND KEVIN FREKING
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Congress is set to pass a crucial spending bill that averts a government shutdown, but there's one potential obstacle: President Donald Trump.

Neither party wants the government to close ahead of the midterm elections that will determine control of Congress, but Trump has made clear his frustration at the lack of money for his long-promised wall along the U.S.-Mexico border. He has said it is "ridiculous" the wall has yet to be fully funded.

With less than a week before a Sept. 30 deadline for a partial shutdown, Republican leaders hope they can get Trump to set aside his frustration about the wall and to sign legislation that funds the military and a host of civilian agencies for the next year. The bill also would provide a short-term fix to keep the government running through Dec. 7.

The Senate easily approved the measure last week, with only seven senators voting no.

The vote in the House is expected to be closer, with House conservatives voicing displeasure that money is included for Planned Parenthood but not the wall.

"You want to stanch a blue wave?" of Democrats in the midterms? asked Rep. Andy Biggs, R-Ariz., a member of the conservative House Freedom Caucus. "Then keep your promises — and one of those promises is to build the wall."

Trump himself raised the possibility last week that he might not sign the measure unless wall funding is included.

"Where is the money for border security and the wall in this ridiculous spending bill?" Trump said Thursday on Twitter. Republicans "must finally get tough" against Democrats he said are obstructing law enforcement and border security, he added.

But it seems only Trump can stop the spending legislation from becoming law. Biggs and

other conservatives admit they don't have the numbers to defeat the spending bill in the House, given that leaders from both parties support the legislation.

"I expect it to pass. The votes are going to be there," said Rep. Tom Cole, R-Okl., a senior member of the House Appropriations Committee who is among the best vote counters in the Capitol.

"There's substantial support" for the bill in both parties, Cole said. He emphasized that the measure increases defense spending — including the largest pay raise for the military in nearly a decade — and boosts funding for a range of domestic programs, including a 5 percent increase for the National Institute of Health, a priority of both parties.

"I think we're in pretty good shape," he said.

Still, many conservatives are unhappy.

"This bill funds things we said we wouldn't, like Planned Parenthood, but doesn't fund things we said we would, like the border security wall. That's unacceptable," said Rep. Jim Jordan, R-Ohio, a leader of the conservative wing of the GOP who has made himself a candidate to lead House Republicans after the midterm elections. "Republicans need to actually do what we said."

Jordan said.

House Speaker Paul Ryan, R-Wis., defended the bill, saying it fully funds the military while providing "historic" spending to fight the opioid epidemic, which takes the lives of more than 100 people in the U.S. every day.

"These are top priorities for the country, and we are ready to get this bill into law soon," Ryan said last week.

Ryan, Senate Majority Leader Mitch McConnell, R-Ky., and other GOP lawmakers met with Trump earlier this month to plot strategy and to urge the president not to force a shutdown.

Trump's stance has zigzagged. At times he has said he won't allow a shutdown before the midterm elections. At other times, he's mused that closing the government might be good for him politically.



Protesters gather in the rain Monday to speak out against Judge Brett Kavanaugh in front of the Supreme Court on Capitol Hill in Washington.

CAROLYN KASTER/AP

Trump defends Kavanaugh in wake of new accusation

By LISA MASCARO,
MARY CLARE JALONICK
AND JONATHAN LEMIRE
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — President Donald Trump staunchly defended his embattled Supreme Court nominees against a new allegation of sexual misconduct Monday, calling the accusations against Judge Brett Kavanaugh "totally political."

The president spoke a day after a second allegation emerged against Kavanaugh, a development that further imperiled his nomination to the Supreme Court, forced the White House and Senate Republicans onto the defensive and fueled calls from Democrats to postpone further action on his confirmation.

Trump, at the United Nations for his second General Assembly meeting, called the allegations unfair and unsubstantiated, made by accusers who come "out of the woodwork." He also questioned the political motivations of the attorneys representing the women, saying "you should

look into the lawyers doing the representation."

On Kavanaugh, Trump stressed, "I am with him all the way."

The new accusation landed late Sunday in a report from The New Yorker, just a few hours after negotiators had reached an agreement to hold an extraordinary public hearing Thursday for Kavanaugh and Christine Blasey Ford, who accuses him of sexually assaulting her at a party when they were teenagers. Kavanaugh denies the accusation.

President Donald Trump, who has been accused of sexual misconduct, has responded to the new allegations against his Supreme Court nominee. In a statement provided by the White House, Kavanaugh said the event "did not happen" and that the allegation was "a smear, plain and simple."

However, Sen. Dianne Feinstein of California, the ranking Democrat on the Judiciary Committee, called for the "immediate postponement" of any further action on Kavanaugh's nomination.

Republicans on the Senate Judiciary Committee said they would

investigate Ramirez's accusation. Taylor Fox, a Judiciary spokesman, complained that Democrats "actively withheld information" from the Republicans. He said they appear "more interested in a political takedown" than a bipartisan process.

Eyeing White House, Cory Booker introduces himself to Iowa

By THOMAS BEAUMONT
Associated Press

DES MOINES, Iowa — Cory Booker is not being subtle.

The Iowa caucuses are well over a year away, but the new Jersey senator is working overtime to make an impression in Iowa and in other states that will be crucial to winning the Democratic presidential nomination in 2020.

Booker has secured the keynote speaker role at the marquee fall Democratic Party fundraising banquet in Des Moines on Oct. 6. He'll also headline a Democratic fundraiser later in October in South Carolina, which holds the first primary in the South

and is a key test of support among black voters.

Adding to the intrigue surrounding Booker is his budding relationship with Des Moines lawyer Jerry Crawford, a party powerbroker helping the senator make connections in Iowa. After Crawford attended a dinner with Booker in the Washington area last spring, he arranged meetings in Newark for him with influential Iowa Democrats, including state House Minority Leader Mark Smith.

The moves are a notable break from the



Booker

approach of other well-known Democrats considering 2020 campaigns. While many potentially top-tier prospects have fostered relationships in Iowa, Booker is the only one — for now — to be in the state ahead of the November midterm elections. The strategy is risky but gives Booker the opportunity to introduce himself to Iowa voters before other high-wattage candidates show up later this year or in early 2019. That, according to some Iowa political operators, could prove helpful.

"I'm aware of Sen. Booker," said Nathan Thompson, a Democratic chairman in Winneshiek County. "He definitely seems like he has presidential ambitions. But I'm

not real familiar with him, beyond being the former mayor of Newark."

A spokesman for Booker, Jeff Giertz, insists the senator has not decided to run for president and is focused purely on the midterms.

Booker has campaigned for Democrats in 20 states "with one purpose in mind: to support great Democratic candidates who will be a check and balance to President Trump," Giertz said.

Still, Booker is working to build his profile with a recent appearance on "The Tonight Show" and a sprawling profile in New York magazine last week in which he said it would be "irresponsible" for him not to consider a presidential bid.

NATION

Evacuations go on as NC rivers rise in Florence's wake

BY GARY D. ROBERTSON,
MARTHA WAGGONER
AND ALAN SUDEMAN

Associated Press

BLADENBORO, N.C. — Hurricane Florence is by no means done with the Carolinas, where some rivers are still rising and thousands of people were told to plan to leave their homes on Monday before rivers reach their crest.

About 6,000 to 8,000 people in Georgetown County, S.C., were alerted to be prepared to evacuate potential flood zones ahead of a "record event" of up to 10 feet of flooding, which is expected to begin Tuesday near parts of the Pee Dee and Waccamaw rivers, county spokeswoman Jackie Broach-Akers said.

Residents along the Waccamaw were bracing for water expected to peak Wednesday at 22 feet near Conway. That's twice the normal flood stage, and far higher than the previous record of 17.9 feet, according to charts published by the National Weather Service on Monday.

The Cape Fear and Neuse rivers also remain swollen, and aren't expected to return to normal levels until October, the charts show.

The county's emergency management director, Sam Hodge,

said in a video message posted online that authorities are watching river gauges closely and law enforcement would be going door to door in any threatened areas.

"From boots on the ground to technology that we have, we are trying to be able to get the message out," Hodge said, warning people not to wait for an official evacuation order if they begin to feel unsafe.

Parts of Interstate 40 are expected to remain underwater for another week or more, and hundreds of smaller roads remain impassable, but there was some good news: Interstate 95 was reopened to a record Sunday night for the first time since the floods, North Carolina Gov. Roy Cooper announced.

Floodwaters already receding on one stretch of Interstate 40 left thousands of rotting fish on the pavement for firefighters to clean up. Video showed firefighters blasting the dead fish off the highway with a fire hose in Pender County in eastern North Carolina. The local fire department posted online: "We can add 'washing fish off of the interstate' to the long list of interesting things firefighters get to experience."

North Carolina Emergency Management Director Michael



JEFF GARRETT, NORTH CAROLINA DEPARTMENT OF TRANSPORTATION/AP

Fish lie along Interstate 40 in Pender County in eastern North Carolina on Saturday after floodwaters receded.

Spryberry said major flooding is continuing in eastern counties along the Black, Lumber, Neuse and Cape Fear rivers.

"Florence continues to bring misery to North Carolina," Cooper said in a statement Sunday evening. He added that crews conducted about 350 rescues over the weekend and that travel remains treacherous in the southeastern area of his state.

But he said National Guard members could be shifting next to more door-to-door and air search and rescue checks on people in still-flooded areas.

The storm has claimed at least 43 lives since slamming into the coast Sept. 14.

In Washington, lawmakers are considering almost \$1.7 billion in new money for disaster relief and

recovery, even as they face a deadline this week to fund the government before the Oct. 1 start of the new budget year.

The chairman of the House Appropriations Committee said the money would be available as grants to states to help rebuild housing and public works as well as to assist businesses as they recover. Rep. Rodney Frelinghuysen, R-N.J., called it "a first round" and said lawmakers are ready to act quickly if the federal disaster relief agency also needs more money.

An economic research firm estimated that Florence has caused around \$44 billion in damage and lost output, which would make it one of the 10 costliest U.S. hurricanes. The worst disaster, Hurricane Katrina in 2005, cost \$192.2

billion in today's dollars, while last year's Hurricane Harvey cost \$133.5 billion. Moody's Analytics offered a preliminary estimate that Florence has caused \$40 billion in damage and \$4 billion in lost economic output.

In other developments, at least three wild horse herds survived Florence on North Carolina's Outer Banks, but caretakers were still trying to account for one herd living on a hard-hit barrier island, the News & Observer reported Sunday. Staff members are planning to make trips to the island this week to check on the Shackleford Banks herd.

North Carolina environmental officials also said they're closely monitoring two sites where Florence's floodwaters have inundated coal ash sites.

Shootout in Baltimore kills suspect, wounds officer

Associated Press

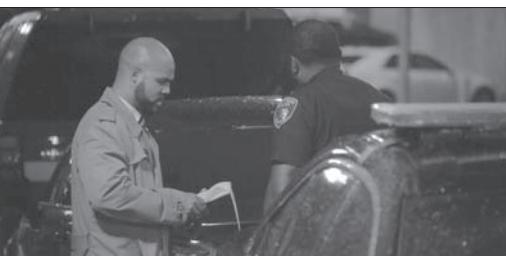
BALTIMORE — A suspect died and an officer was wounded in a shootout Sunday evening in a violence-prone Baltimore district where a "crime-suppression initiative" was taking place, Baltimore's interim police chief said.

Interim Police Chief Gary Tugge said at a late-night news conference that the gunfire erupted just before 6:30 p.m. in a west Baltimore neighborhood. He said the male officer, a police veteran, was being treated at the University of Maryland Shock Trauma Center and that the injuries did not appear life-threatening.

He did not release the name of the man who they said shot the officer before being killed.

No one else was hurt, Tugge told reporters near the scene in the Poppleton neighborhood. The immediate area was cordoned off quickly by investigators as an "active crime scene," and only local residents could get in. Bright lights were brought in on towers to illuminate the scene as officers investigated into the night.

The Baltimore Sun reported that two



KARL MERTON FERRON, THE BALTIMORE SUN/AP

A detective talks with a member of the Baltimore Police outside the University of Maryland Shock Trauma Center following a shooting in Baltimore on Sunday.

people were shot and wounded last week in the same area.

Asked about the crime-suppression program's activities, Tugge didn't immediately elaborate on its methods.

"There's been a lot of violence in this area and we have taken extra steps in this area to address the violence," he said Sunday.

Tugge said crime-suppression operations had been carried out in other districts of the city and that this was just another area where that initiative was being undertaken. He said the shootout began after the officer came upon the suspect, and that officers with the crime-suppression initiative weren't actively seeking the person who was fatally shot.

Kelly Blanding said he was watching football in a home near where the shooting erupted.

He told The Sun he heard so many shots that "I started to wonder, when is it gonna stop?"

"It was like a war out here," Blanding added.

Authorities said they were still gathering information and declined to identify the officer and the suspect by name or race. Tugge said police would be looking at body-worn-camera footage and gathering evidence, an activity that would continue after sunrise.

Tugge also didn't say how long investigators would keep the neighborhood closed off.

Judge: California kindergartner can take cannabis drug to school

Associated Press

SANTA ROSA, Calif. — A California kindergartner can keep bringing a cannabis-based drug used for emergency treatment of a rare form of epilepsy to her public school, a judge ruled Friday.

The Santa Rosa Press-Democrat reported that a judge sided with the family of Brooke Adams, 5.

The Rincon Valley Union School District in Santa Rosa sought to ban the ointment from school grounds because it contains the active ingredient in marijuana.

Authorities argued that allowing Brooke to use the drug at school violated state and federal laws barring medical marijuana on school grounds.

Medical marijuana use in private with a doctor's recommendation is legal in California.

A judge's temporary order permitted Brooke to start school in August while the district's objections were considered. A nurse accompanies Brooke to school and has had to apply the oil three times to treat seizures.

Judge Charles Marson made the order permanent on Friday. Marson is a judge in the state office of Administrative Hearings' Special Education Division, which handles disagreements between school districts and parents of children with disabilities.

NATION

Parents face tougher rules to get immigrant kids back

By GISELA SALOMON
AND CLAUDIA TORRENTE
Associated Press

MIAMI — Armando Tabora desperately wants to get his teenage daughter out of the government detention facility where she has been for more than three months. He has been stymied at every turn.

The Florida landscaping worker took the bold step of going to a government office to submit fingerprints and other documents required for immigrants to get their children out of government custody — and are now being shared with deportation agents. He then was told that the woman rents a room from also would need to submit fingerprints, something she refused to do. He then sought out friends who are here legally to help him out, to no avail.

"I don't know what to do," said Tabora, an immigrant from Honduras who has lived more than a decade in the shadows without being detected. "My daughter is desperate, crying. She wants to get out of there."

The drama of the separation of children from their parents at the border dominated the headlines this year, but thousands of immigrant families are experiencing a similar frustration: the increasing hurdles they must surmount to take custody of sons, daughters and relatives who crossed the border on their own.

The Trump administration has imposed more stringent rules and vetting for family members to get those children back as part of an across-the-board hardening of immigration policy.

As a result, family members are struggling to comply with the new requirement, keeping children in detention longer and helping the number of migrant children in government custody soar to the highest levels ever. Federal officials insist the policies are about ensuring the safety of children.

More than 12,000 children are now in government shelters, compared with 2,400 in May 2017. The average length that children spend in detention has increased from 40 days in fiscal year 2016 to 59 in fiscal year 2018, according to federal data.

The requirements include the submission of fingerprints by all adults in the household where a migrant child will live. These sponsors — the term the U.S. uses for adults who take custody of immigrant children — also are subject to more background checks, proofs of income and home visits, lawyers say.

And this information is now to be shared with Immigration and Customs Enforcement — something that did not occur in the past. ICE said last week that the agency has arrested 41 sponsors since the agencies started sharing information in June.

Likely need for public aid could keep migrants out

By NICK MIROFF
The Washington Post

WASHINGTON — The Trump administration will make it much more difficult for immigrants to come to the U.S. or to remain in the country if they use or are likely to use housing vouchers, food subsidies or other "non-cash" forms of public assistance under a new proposal announced Saturday by the Department of Homeland Security.

U.S. immigration laws have long contained provisions limiting foreigners who are likely to be dependent on financial aid and therefore a "public charge." But the proposed changes amount to a broad expansion of the government's ability to deny visas or residency to immigrants if they or members of their household benefit from programs like Medicaid Part D, the Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program or Section 8 housing vouchers.

"Under long-standing federal law, those seeking to immigrate to the United States must show they can support themselves financially," DHS Secretary Kirstjen Nielsen said in a statement, adding that the proposed changes would "promote immigrant self-sufficiency and protect finite resources by ensuring that they are not likely to become burdens on American taxpayers."

The proposal will publish in the Federal Register in the coming weeks, according to the DHS, triggering a 60-day public comment period. "After DHS carefully considers public comments received on the proposed rule, DHS plans to issue a final public charge rule that will include an effective date," the agency said. DHS officials say they are anticipating

pating court challenges to any change.

While the proposal does not include tax credits and other health benefits that were under consideration in previous drafts, immigrant advocates have raised concerns that the rule change will force families to forgo help to avoid jeopardizing their immigration status.

"This would force families — including citizen children — to choose between getting the help they need and remaining in their communities," said Diane Yentel, president of the National Low Income Housing Coalition. "The last thing the federal government should do is punish families that have fallen in hard times for feeding their children or keeping a roof over their heads and avoiding homelessness."

But advocacy groups see the measure as one more attempt by the Trump administration to limit legal immigration and reduce the number of foreigners living in the U.S. Census data show the foreign-born percentage of the U.S. population is at its highest level in more than a century, according to leading demographers.

The changes, if adopted, potentially would affect those applying for immigration visas or those with temporary residency seeking to remain in the country. It would have little or no bearing on immigrants who entered the country illegally, but it could weigh on the cases of the more than 600,000 with Deferred Action for Childhood Arrival benefits if they file for permanent residency.

According to previous draft versions of the proposal, using U.S. government data, the foreign-born population uses public benefits at virtually the same rate as native-born Americans.

Lawyers and advocates say that change has had a chilling effect because many family members live in the country illegally and have been deterred from claiming relatives for fear they will be deported.

"They are saying, 'We are going after the people trying to take care of them (children)'," said Jen Podkul, director of policy at Kids in Need of Defense.

The government long has required families to go through some vetting to serve as sponsors. The issue has become more pre-

valent in the past five years, when tens of thousands of unaccompanied children from El Salvador, Guatemala and Honduras started coming across the border.

Since October 2014, the federal government has placed more than 150,000 unaccompanied minors with parents or other adult sponsors who are expected to care for the children and help them attend school while they seek legal status in immigration court.

Under Trump, the rules have been toughened in what the administration says are necessary



RICHARD DREW/AP

Honduran Nahun Eduardo Puerto Pineda, 8, holds his 2-year-old sibling on Aug. 3 after being reunited with his mother, Elyn Carbajal, at the Cayuga Center in New York.

steps to keep children from ending up in the homes of people with criminal records and other issues that could endanger kids.

"If somebody is unwilling to claim their child from custody because they're concerned about their own immigration status, I think that de facto calls into question whether they're an adequate sponsor and whether we should be releasing the child to that person," Steven Wagner, acting assistant secretary of the Department of Health and Human Services' Administration for Children and Families, said when the policy was announced in May.

The issue of sharing information with ICE arises because im-

migrant children and adults are handled by separate federal government agencies. Children are in the custody of the Health and Human Service Department's Office of Refugee Resettlement, while adults are handled by ICE.

Until the new fingerprinting policy took effect, the government rarely shared such information with immigration officials unless a finger印 match showed that a potential sponsor had a particularly alarming record, said Holly Cooper, co-director of the Immigration Law Clinic at the University of California Davis.

The tougher rules have put many immigrants into the position of doing something that once seemed unthinkable: turning over their fingerprints and other information while knowing that it will be shared with ICE.

Marien Puerto, 29, did just that to get custody of his son, Nahun, 9. Puerto crossed the border in 2014 and has been trying to live in the

United States since then. He and his wife, Elyn Carbajal, waited two months to get custody of the boy.

"I did not want to do the fingerprints but I had no choice," said the construction worker. "Now they have all my information. I feel they are going to accuse me of smuggling family members."

Workers at The Hispanic Interest Coalition of Alabama say that after the Office of Refugee Resettlement started sharing information with ICE in June, two to four sponsors per week did not show up for appointments and a few who did visit refused to get fingerprinted.

After the New York Civil Liberties Union sued in February on behalf of a detained Salvadoran teen and his mother, the government was required to release case files on 45 children held under similar circumstances. In about half a dozen of those cases, reluctance to provide fingerprints was a factor in holding up children's release, forcing some sponsors to scramble for other pieces of live and others to drop out of the application process, the NYCLU said.

If unaccompanied minors are not placed with sponsors, they can end up in a federal foster care program. Some could be deported to the same dangers from which they fled.

Many of the parents and other relatives trying to secure their children's release are poor and, to cover expenses, often share homes with others who are unrelated or in the country illegally. Many of those roommates have been reluctant to submit their fingerprints.

WORLD

Prosecutor: Give Nobel scandal suspect 3 years

COPENHAGEN, Denmark — A Swedish prosecutor has demanded three years in prison for Jean-Claude Arnault, the man at the center of a sex abuse and financial crimes scandal that is tarnishing the academy awarding the Nobel Literature Prize.

Arnault, a major cultural figure in Sweden and the husband of Swedish Academy member Katarina Frostenson, is on trial for two counts of rape of a woman in 2011.

Prosecutor Christina Voigt spoke Monday after closing remarks at the trial, conducted behind closed doors at Stockholm District Court. It was unclear when a verdict would be announced.

UK opposition might back new Brexit vote

LONDON — Britain's main opposition party has taken a step toward backing a new referendum on Brexit — but has stopped short of saying the vote should include an option not to leave the European Union at all.

Delegates at the party's annual conference in Liverpool will consider a motion Tuesday saying "all options" should remain on the table, "including campaigning for a public vote."

The motion falls short of calling for a new referendum with an option to remain in the EU, as many party members want.

Russian opposition leader detained again

MOSCOW — Russian opposition leader Alexei Navalny was detained just after being released from jail.

Navalny's 30 days in jail for staging an unsanctioned protest ended Monday. As he left a Moscow detention center, a police officer took him away. Navalny is accused of violating a different protest law.

His detention comes amid a wave of popular discontent against an increase in the retirement age, an issue that angered Russians across the political spectrum.

Iran holds funerals for terrorist attack victims

AHVAZ, Iran — In a collective outpouring of grief, Iranians held funerals Monday for the victims of the weekend terrorist attack on a military parade in the southwestern city of Ahvaz that killed 25 people, the deadliest attack in the country in nearly a decade.

Saturday's assault in Ahvaz, the provincial capital of Khuzestan, was blamed on Iran's Arab separatists. At least 60 people were also wounded when militants disguised as soldiers opened fire at marching troops and onlookers at the parade.

Arab separatists have claimed the assault, in which Guard members and soldiers were among those killed and wounded. Islamic State also claimed responsibility for the attack, but offered no clear evidence it carried out the assault.

From The Associated Press

Opposition wins Maldives presidency

BY KRISHAN FRANCIS

Associated Press

COLOMBO, Sri Lanka — Ibrahim Mohamed Solih, the president-elect of the Maldives, spent his youth marching in the streets for democracy. He was elected to Parliament at age 32 as an independent candidate, helping to draw up a new constitution.

But unlike other reformers of his generation, Solih was never sidelined by a prison sentence or exile, a fact that propelled him into the role of the opposition party's standard-bearer.

Political observers say Solih, 56, known by his nickname, Ibu, has been a quiet force behind the tropical South Asian archipelago's transition to democracy and a rallying point for the opposition in crisis under outgoing strongman Yameen Abdul Gayoom.

"He was never in a hurry," Mohamed Aflath, a businessman who voted for Solih in Sunday's election, said Monday. "Some guys who were more eager to become the leader had to say goodbye to politics, some ended in jail while some in exile. But Ibu was very patient and calm."

Solih's supporters flooded the streets of the capital, Male, after his victory speech early Monday, waving the yellow flags of his Maldivian Democratic Party and singing campaign songs. Supporters cited his 25-year career as a parliamentarian as evidence of his commit-



MOAHMED SHARUHAAN/AP

Maldivian opposition presidential candidate Ibrahim Mohamed Solih, left, and his running mate, Faisal Naseem, celebrate their victory in the presidential election Monday.

ment and self-restraint — in contrast to some of the country's more power-hungry political leaders.

Amid the celebrations, Solih called on Yameen to immediately begin a smooth transition of power and urged his supporters to remain

calm. Solih and his running mate, Faisal Naseem, are to be sworn in on Nov. 17.

An elections eve police raid of Solih's main campaign office cast a pall over the vote. But Solih assured Maldivians that he had spoken to police and security forces, and that "they expressed their support of the decision of the people."

He helped co-found the Maldivian Democratic Party in 2003 along with Mohamed Nasheed, cousin of his wife, Fazna Ahmed. Nasheed in 2008 became the first president elected in multiparty polls. Solih served as Parliament majority leader during Nasheed's presidency.

Nasheed was forced to resign in 2012 after losing military and police support over the arrest of a prominent judge. He ran for the presidency again in 2013 — the country's second multiparty election — and lost to Gayoom's half-brother, the current president, Yameen.

With Yameen cracking down on the opposition — jailing or forcing into exile almost all his potential rivals, including Nasheed, who was exiled first in the United Kingdom and then in Sri Lanka — the responsibility of rallying the opposition fell to Solih.

He was unanimously elected as the joint opposition's presidential candidate in June.

Yameen congratulated his opponent in a concession speech broadcast on national television, saying, "I know I have to step down now."



PHOTOS FROM INDONESIAN CONSULATE GENERAL IN OSAKA/AP



Sea survivor

Above: Aldi Novel Adilang, 18, sits on the deck of a Panamanian-flagged vessel, the MV Arpeggio, after being rescued in the waters near Guam. The Indonesian teenager survived about seven weeks adrift at sea after the floating wooden fish trap, left, he was employed to mind slipped its moorings. Aldi's parents and the Indonesian Consulate in Osaka, Japan, said he was rescued off Guam on Aug. 31 and returned to Indonesia earlier this month.

In a first, Hong Kong bans political party

Associated Press

HONG KONG — Authorities in Hong Kong on Monday took an unprecedented step to quash separatist voices by banning a political party that advocates independence for the southern Chinese territory on national security grounds.

John Lee, the territory's secretary for security, announced that the Hong Kong National Party would be prohibited from operation from Monday.

At a briefing, Lee said the political party led by Andy Chan, 27, posed a threat to national security because it wants Hong Kong to be an independent republic and has taken steps to push that agenda. Lee cited as examples alleged plans by the party to recruit members and infiltrate schools to promote its views.

Lee said the party also "spreads hatred and discrimination against mainlanders in Hong Kong," referring to people from mainland China who live in the city. He accused the party of saying that it would employ all means to achieve its goals, including force — though the South China Morning Post newspaper said he acknowledged that the party hasn't actually used violent means to promote its cause.

The ban cites a national security law that has not been invoked since 1997. It is likely to raise further questions about Beijing's growing influence in the former British colony, which was promised semi-autonomy as part of its 1997 handover. Chinese President Xi Jinping and other officials have

warned secessionist activity would not be tolerated.

The perception that Beijing is renegeing on its promise of semi-autonomy and eroding Hong Kong's free elections and freedom of speech is helping fuel a rising generation of young activists calling for greater autonomy, if not outright independence.

In Beijing, the office in charge of Hong Kong affairs in China's Cabinet, the State Council, expressed support for the ban, saying in remarks carried by the official Xinhua News Agency that the move was necessary to protect China's national security.

Chan, the leader of the National Party, had no immediate comment on Monday.

Chan and other pro-independence candidates were disqualified from 2016 elections to the Hong Kong legislature after they refused to sign a pledge saying Hong Kong is an inalienable part of China. The Hong Kong National Party has never had any seats on the council.

Maya Wang, a researcher with Human Rights Watch, said the ban sets a dangerous precedent. "The banning of the Hong Kong National Party is a milestone in the Beijing and Hong Kong governments' assault on Hong Kong's freedoms," Wang said.

Though Hong Kong police said the party had not yet used any violence, it justified the ban as a necessary pre-emptive move.

"This justification sets a dangerous precedent, where more non-violent pro-democracy political groups may be similarly banned," Wang wrote in an email.


STARS AND STRIPES
OPINION

Max D. Lederer Jr., Publisher

Lt. Col. Sean Klimek, Europe commander

Lt. Col. Richard McClintic, Pacific commander

Harry Eley, Europe Business Operations

EDITORIAL

Terry Leonard, Editor

terrad.terry@stripes.com

Robert H. Reid, Senior Managing Editor

reid.robert@stripes.com

Tina Croley, Managing Editor for Content

croley.tina@stripes.com

Sean Moores, Managing Editor for Presentation

moores.sean@stripes.com

Joe Gromelski, Managing Editor for Digital

gromelski.joe@stripes.com

BUREAU STAFF**Europe/Mideast**

Erik Slavin, Europe & Mideast Bureau Chief

slavin.erik@stripes.com

+49(0)631.3615.9350; DSN (314)583.9350

Pacific

Aaron Kidd, Pacific Bureau Chief

kidd.aaron@stripes.com

+81.42.552.2511 ext. 88380; DSN (315)227.7380

Washington

Josephine Cacchiani, Washington Bureau Chief

cacchiani.josephine@stripes.com

(+1)202.761.0908; DSN (312)763.0908

Brian Bowers, Assistant Managing Editor, News

bowers.brian@stripes.com

CIRCULATION**Mideast**

Robert Reismann, reismann.robert@stripes.com

+49(0)631.3615.9150; DSN (314)583.9150

Europe

Van Rowell, rowell.van@stripes.com

+49(0)631.3615.9111; DSN (314)583.9111

Pacific

Mari Mori, customercare@stripes.com

+81-3 6385.3171; DSN (315)229.3171

CONTACT US**Washington**

tel. (+1)202.761.0900; DSN (312)763.0900;

529 14th Street NW, Suite 350, Washington, DC

20045-1301

Reader letters

letters@stripes.com

Additional contacts

stripes.com/contactus

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BY TRUDY RUBIN
The Philadelphia Inquirer

President Donald Trump appears eager to declare that peace has come to the Korean Peninsula. The president has deluded himself that North Korea is well on its way to getting rid of its nuclear weapons. This month, he excitedly tweeted, "North Korea recommits to denuclearization — we've come a long way."

Yet Trump looks eager to overrule his top advisers who warn of the risks of declaring peace before North Korea gets serious about eliminating its nuclear arsenal.

Instead the president may listen to South Korean President Moon Jae-in, whom he will meet at the United Nations on Monday, as well as North Korean leader Kim Jong Un. Both are urging a U.S. peace declaration by the end of the year as a first step to reviving the 1953 Korean armistice with a peace treaty.

Kim wants Trump to hold a second summit which the peace declaration could be forthcoming.

"North Korea wants a summit with Trump in order to decouple Trump from the rest of the administration because it sees him as an easy mark," said The Heritage Foundation's Bruce Klingner, a 20-year intelligence agency veteran who specializes in North Korea. Kim hopes that Trump will disregard the lessons learned from decades of U.S. negotiations with North Korea.

Here are four reasons why a premature peace declaration is unwise:

1. A peace declaration should not pre-cede progress on the nuclear issue.

Pyongyang should first demonstrate willingness to give up its nuclear arsenal. Contrary to Trump's proclamations, Kim has made only puny gestures since the Singapore summit in June.

Indeed, the vague statement Trump procured from Kim in Singapore is far less concrete than past pledges North Korea has made (and broken), notably under President Bill Clinton. As the Brookings

Institution's Korea expert, Jung Pak, tweeted Sept. 19: "We should recognize that 13 years ago, they agreed to far bigger concessions. ... These are minuscule moves on Kim's part..."

True, the North Korean leader has toned down the warlike rhetoric, as has Trump, which is good. And Kim has gone 10 months without testing missiles or nuclear weapons.

But North Korea has halted nuclear tests before for lengthy periods. Moreover, Kim has made clear he thinks more tests aren't needed for his intercontinental ballistic missile program.

As for Kim's pledge to dismantle a key nuclear reactor at Yongbyon, that facility has been partly dismantled and shut down on several occasions, only to be restored and restarted.

In other words, Kim is playing Trump, giving gifts that don't touch on the main issue, destroying his large nuclear arsenal. (He directed attention by returning the remains of 55 missing Americans, which is welcome. But recall that the United States received remains of 629 Americans prior to 2005.)

2. Further concessions may help Kim keep part of his arsenal.

No expert I spoke with believes Kim intends to give up all his nuclear weapons. Rather, his goal is to slowly acquire recognition as a nuclear power.

"What we have seen so far is (only) a North Korean commitment to denuclearizing the Korean Peninsula," said Klingner. "But the North Koreans have a very different definition of what that means from the U.S. definition."

While Washington seeks the elimination of all of Pyongyang's nukes, North Korea defines that phrase to mean the initial removal of U.S. troops and nuclear warheads from South Korea — before fully addressing its nuclear program. Even then, Kim believes he needs an arsenal to ensure his survival.

"North Korea wants to be accepted as a nuclear weapons state, the Pakistan of East Asia," said Klingner. Pakistan con-

ducted major nuclear tests in 1998 and has managed to keep a large nuclear arsenal, despite intense U.S. and global pressure. Kim wants to do likewise, with sanctions removed and economic largesse from South Korea and elsewhere. A premature peace would help Kim achieve his goal.

3. A premature peace will undercut pressure on North Korea.

Since the Singapore summit, China and Russia are already weakening their adherence to sanctions against North Korea. Why not, since Trump said (incorrectly) in Singapore that North Korea "was no longer a nuclear threat"?

A peace declaration could spark political pressure from factions inside South Korea for withdrawal of U.S. troops and the end of the alliance with Seoul. And Kim will play on Trump's expressed desire to bring U.S. troops home soon.

But weakening the U.S.-South Korean alliance before eliminating the North's arsenal would leave South Korea at the mercy of an aggressive and unreliable Pyongyang, a nuclear-armed dictatorship that maintains vast concentration camps at home.

4. Lifting pressure on Kim could plunge Washington back into a nasty standoff with Pyongyang.

Eventually, Trump will be forced to realize that Kim has no desire to fully eliminate his nukes. At that point, the president may revert to aggressive rhetoric and threats.

Neither the United States nor North Korea is likely to start a pre-emptive war, but the room for dangerous mistakes would be vast, especially if Trump feels humiliated. So let's hope the president's advisers persuade him to press Kim to provide detailed data on Pyongyang's arsenal and permit international inspections — before engaging in further peace fantasies. Otherwise, a premature peace may lead to a premature end of the Kim-Trump bromance.

Trudy Rubin is a columnist and editorial-board member for The Philadelphia Inquirer.

It's not a great time to be a Russian spy in Europe

By RICK NOACK*The Washington Post***PERILIN**

When two men suspected of poisoning former Russian spy Sergei Skripal appeared on Russian television earlier this month, the bizarre interview set the stage for another round of Western-Russian accusations. Viewers around the world subsequently mocked the pair that had quickly become the world's most famous suspected Russian spying duo.

Their appearance comes against a backdrop of what appear to be a string of defeats in Europe for Russia's military spy agency, the GRU, and mass expulsions of Russian diplomats and spies earlier this year shortly after the Skripal poisoning.

On Friday, in the latest incident, Norwegian authorities arrested a 51-year-old Russian man on suspicions that he unlawfully gathered information during an inter-parliamentary seminar on digitization this month in Norway. After the detention was made public by authorities on Sunday, the Russian Embassy in Norway rejected the accusations as "absurd."

Earlier this month, Estonia had arrested a military officer and his father — both Russian-Estonian citizens — and accused the two of having spied for Russia for more than a decade. About 300,000 of Estonia's 1.3 million citizens belong to the country's Russian-speaking minority,

and officials have struggled to bridge the divide between the two groups ever since Estonia gained independence from the Soviet Union in 1991.

Amid its proximity to Russia and its complicated history, tiny Estonia has charged at least 12 alleged spies over the last 10 years. But Estonian officials say that the high detention numbers are also due to its less than hush-hush approach to dealings with accused spies. Whereas some other countries have hesitated to make cases public, Estonia says it has "chosen a path of transparency," according to a governmental statement provided to The Moscow Times.

Recent public accusations in Norway and several other European countries may similarly indicate a more confrontational approach to counterespionage as well.

Swiss officials confirmed two weeks ago that Dutch authorities had arrested and expelled a duo of Russian spies earlier in the year over accusations that they had been trying to hack a Swiss laboratory. The targeted Bern-based Spies lab is associated with the Organization for the Prohibition of Chemical Weapons, which was involved in the investigation into the poisoning of Skripal and his daughter.

The alleged hacking attempt led to Switzerland's summoning of the Russian ambassador, even though Moscow denied any involvement. Using similar language as deployed after last Friday's arrest in Norway, the Russian Embassy in Switzer-

land subsequently called the allegations "absurd."

Skripal's poisoning and the more or less obvious link back to Russia triggered questions whether the perpetrators behind the attack even wanted to escape without a trace or if the inevitable exposure was always part of the plan, possibly to send a clear warning to potential traitors willing to abandon the GRU for Western agencies.

In any case, the subsequent investigation appears to have provided European agencies with a number of new details. Investigative journalism sites Bellingcat and Russia Insider reported last week that the passport files of the two men accused of poisoning Skripal, Ruslan Boshirov and Alexander Petrov, shared similar features with a number of other files that are believed to be associated with Russian spies, including phone numbers tied to military facilities and a similar passport issuing authority and number.

Other individuals with passports sharing similar features have alleged ties to a coup attempt in the country of Montenegro as well as other, prior expulsions, according to the two media outlets.

All this at the very least suggests that Russia's spies in Europe, at least those with the GRU military agency, might be advised to look for new passports.

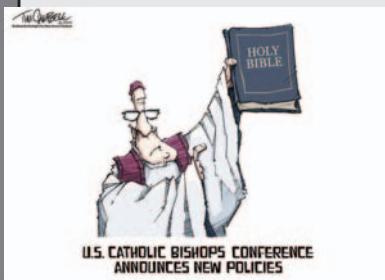
Rick Noack is a foreign affairs reporter who covers Europe and international security issues from The Washington Post's Berlin bureau.

Looking at the news

A weekly sampling of U.S. editorial cartoons

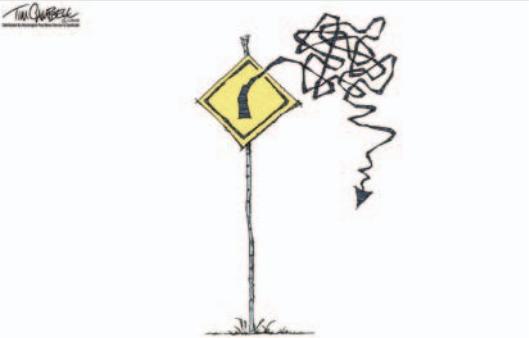


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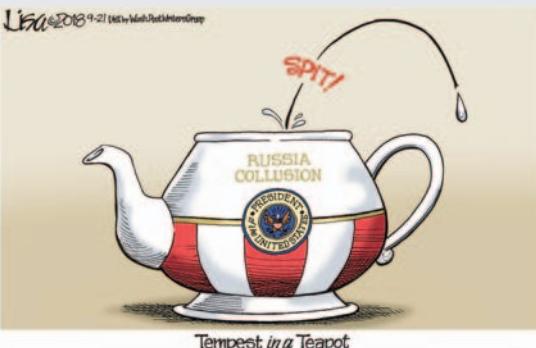


U.S. CATHOLIC BISHOPS CONFERENCE ANNOUNCES NEW POLICIES

TIM CAMPBELL/Washington Post News Service



TIM CAMPBELL/Washington Post News Service



Tempest in a Teapot

LISA BENSON/Washington Post Writers Group



JACK OHMAN/Washington Post Writers Group

AMERICAN ROUNDUP

7 riders rescued from stuck Ferris wheel

NJ CAMDEN — Authorities said seven riders were rescued from a stuck Ferris wheel at a New Jersey county fair.

Gloucester Township police said they were called to assist the fire department after the malfunction was reported Saturday at the Camden County Fair.

Police said the occupied seats were at various heights. The Blackwood Fire Co. told NJ.com that about six of the riders were children.

Fire crews used a tower ladder to rescue the rides. No injuries were reported.

Wind topples tree limb, concrete post; 1 killed

WA RICHLAND — High winds toppled a tree limb and a concrete light post at two festivals in the Tri-Cities, killing one woman and sending two other people to a hospital.

The Tri-City Herald reported that sustained winds of 18 mph and gusts of up to 25 mph knocked down a tree limb at Ye Merrie Greenwood Renaissance Faire on Saturday afternoon, killing a woman.

At a different event—the Christ the King Sausage Fest—the wind snapped a line anchoring a parachute, essentially turning the parachute into a sail that subsequently cracked a concrete light post in the center of the festival. The post struck a man and a girl, sending them to a hospital.

The festival's Facebook page said organizers had heard the injuries are not severe.

Man is accused of threat against hero

FL DELAND — A Florida man is facing a felony charge after authorities said he told a television station and sheriff's deputies that he was going to shoot down the sheriff's helicopter if it didn't stop flying over his house.

The Daytona Beach News-Journal reported Saturday that Robert Moni, 54, is charged with making a false report of a bomb, arson or weapon of mass destruction.

Volusia County sheriff's deputies said they received a call Thursday from a TV station employee who said that a man had claimed in a phone call that he would shoot down the sheriff's helicopter if it didn't stop flying overhead.

Investigators said Moni had made similar threats before and espoused conspiracy theories, saying the helicopters were spying on him.

Police: School bus driver let kids take the wheel

IN VALPARAISO — A northwestern Indiana school bus driver was arrested on allegations that she let children as young as 11 years old drive the bus.

The Porter County Sheriff's Office said Joandrea McAtee, 27,

THE CENSUS

540

The number of packages of cocaine found in boxes of bananas donated to a Texas prison. The Texas Department of Criminal Justice said in a Facebook post that the drugs, worth nearly \$18 million, were found in two pallets of bananas that were donated because they were already ripe. The department said sergeants who picked up the boxes found a bundle of a white powdery substance under the bananas. U.S. customs officials were called to the scene, and authorities said 540 packages of cocaine were found in 45 boxes of bananas.



YONG KIM, THE PHILADELPHIA INQUIRER/AP

Celebrating Chinese culture

Lion Dancers perform during the Mid-Autumn Festival in Philadelphia's Chinatown on Saturday. The annual festival promotes the culture and well-being of the Chinese community.

of Portage, was arrested Friday on preliminary felony charges of child neglect. The department said McAtee allowed three students — ages 11, 13 and 17 — to drive the bus for a short distance in a rural area near Valparaiso as she was dropping students off from school.

Officials said McAtee was fired by the Porter Township school district.

Police: Driver tried to hit car in parking lot

DE DOVER — Delaware police said a driver repeatedly tried to crash into a woman's car in a Dover apartment parking lot.

WDEL-FM reported Keyon Smith, 45, was charged with aggravated menacing and possession of a deadly weapon during commission of a felony-vehicle.

Dover police said Smith tried to back her car into the woman's car Monday night, but missed.

They said Smith then tried several more times before fleeing the scene and later surrendering to

authorities. Police have not released a motive.

Man who stole gift box at casino sought

NV SPARKS — Secret Witness is offering a \$250 reward for information leading to the arrest and prosecution of a suspect who made off with money and gifts at a wedding in a hotel-casino ballroom in Sparks.

Sparks police said a man took the gift box with monetary gifts for the bride and groom at the Nugget Casino recently.

Video surveillance captured him concealing the money and box on his person before he walked out.

Culture center to honor Shoshone killed in 1863

UT SALT LAKE CITY — The chairman of the Northwestern Band of the Shoshone Nation is on a mission to make sure hundreds of tribal members who were killed by U.S. troops in the 1863 "Bear River Massacre"

are never forgotten with a new cultural center in southeastern Idaho.

The Deseret News reported earlier this month that Darren Parry and other tribal council members are working with the GSBS Architects in Utah to develop the "Boa Ogoi" ("Big River") Cultural Interpretive Center.

The Shoshone Nation is also working with the Utah State University College of Natural Resources to clean up the site and returned it to the state it was in in 1863, with more willows and vegetation.

US acquires land where 1865 battle took place

WY CASPER — The U.S. Bureau of Land Management purchased about a square mile of land on the North Platte River outside Casper with historic significance and recreational potential.

The Casper Star-Tribune reported the land was the scene of skirmishes in the 1865 Battle of the Red Buttes, which killed the city's namesake, Army 2nd Lt.

Gaspar Collins.

The land also has 1.5 miles of riverfront on a section of the South Platte prized for trout fishing.

The bureau said it will consult with the public on how it will be used.

Researchers find 1906 shipwreck in Lake Huron

MI DETROIT — The wreckage of a ship that disappeared more than 100 years ago was found in Lake Huron's lower Georgian Bay.

The Detroit News reported that an international team of divers found the J.H. Jones on July 1 near Lion's Head, Ontario. The coastal steamer had 30 people onboard when it vanished in 1906 during a storm.

Researchers say multiple attempts over the decades to locate the Jones were unsuccessful. But researchers Ken Merriman, Jerry Eliason and Cris Kohl were part of the team that located the ship after less than two hours of searching.

From wire reports

SHIFTING GEARS



ROBERT DUFFER, CHICAGO TRIBUNE/TNS

Muscle comes at a cost

By ROBERT DUFFER
Chicago Tribune

The refreshed 2018 Ford Mustang GT gets a lot of upgrades, from a new 10-speed transmission to a new customizable instrument cluster to 25 more ponies. But \$52,000 is a lot of money for a lot of muscle car.

A similarly equipped special edition Hot Wheels Camaro with a 455-horsepower 6.2-liter V-8 we recently tested cracked \$50,000. Then there are all the iterations of the V-8 available in the Dodge Challenger, from the 485-horsepower 5.7-liter to the 840-horsepower 6.2-liter supercharged found from hell. The Challengers are similarly priced.

The extra cost on the Mustang is not for the endangered V-8 engine alone; that beating heart of American muscle power starts at a reasonable \$39,000. It is the cutting-edge extras that set it apart from its older muscle car bros.

The revised Coyote engine in the 2018 Mustang GT puts out 460 horsepower, up 25. Despite a bump of 20 pound-feet of torque, the Mustang's 420-pound-feet falls short of the 455 in the Camaro.

Specs don't tell the story, unless you're

2018 Ford Mustang GT

Vehicle type: American muscle
Base price: \$39,095
Price as tested: \$51,865 (excluding \$900 destination)
Engine: 460-horsepower 5-liter V-8
Transmission: 10-speed automatic
EPA fuel economy rating: 16 mpg city/25 highway/19 combined

TNS

into marketing or measuring muscles.

There is a feral element baked into the Mustang name — this pony needs taming. Hammer the throttle from a stop and the rear wheels kick up all kinds of spin out of those grippy PS4 tires (part of the \$3,995 performance package). Keep the reins straight from a dead stop or end up as another YouTube cars and coffee crasher.

Together with the new quick-shifting 10-speed automatic transmission, the Mustang GT can hit 60 mph in under 4 seconds, according to Ford and multiple magazines. That's nearly half a second quicker than the outgoing Mustang, quicker than the Camaro 1LE by two-tenths of a second,

and quicker than some sports cars that are twice as expensive.

From normal mode to sport-plus mode, the suspension and steering tightens on the fly, so you can come off a highway cruise into a twisty back road without pause. It'll tuck into and out of turns harder, but you'll also feel bumps and road imperfections more. The MagneRide damping system (\$1,695) is an adaptive suspension that is nothing new, as it was first offered in a Mustang GT350 in 2015.

Despite the mechanical wizardry, the Hot Wheels Camaro we tested two months ago felt a bit more planted. Mustang is jumper, twitchier, more youthful than the Camaro. That could be a good or bad thing, depending on your style.

Mustang's V-8 roars wilder and hungrier than the Camaro's, but there is a quiet setting (one of four settings in the active valve performance exhaust for \$895) so you don't feel like a jerk sneaking in at night or dropping the kids at school.

Once removed from domestic duties, the revised Mustang is ready to howl.

The 10-speed automatic (\$1,595) is impressively quick and efficient. We get that people prefer automatics, but a 5.0 feels

more natural with a six-speed manual.

Also part of the performance package is a rear wing and 19-inch black aluminum wheels. Combine that with a slightly lowered hood for better sightlines, wider grille, narrower headlights and new tailights, and the Mustang GT is distinctly more aggressive-looking, like its track star sibling, the GT350. The lightning blue coat isn't new but it really pops.

On the inside, the Mustang is wholly more civilized.

The steering wheel is busy with controls for advanced driver assistance systems such as adaptive cruise control (part of the \$1,495 Smart & Safe package) and to manipulate the excellent customizable 12-inch instrument cluster. It doesn't have Chevy's performance data recorder, but there are plenty of track apps to play with. In sport-plus and track mode, the RPM gauge unfurls into a redline band along the top of the display. Fun stuff.

Ford has made the Mustang GT much more convenient and comfortable as an everyday driver. It is also more advanced than the competition. That makes it worth the price for a track-ready muscle car.

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BUSINESS/WEATHER

Farmers worry bailout checks won't be enough

By JULIET LINDERMAYER
Associated Press

WASHINGTON — Farmers across the U.S. soon will begin receiving government checks as part of a \$1 billion bailout to buoy growers experiencing financial strain from President Donald Trump's trade disputes with China.

But even those poised for big payouts worry it won't be enough. And while support for Trump is nearly unwavering in the heartland, some growers say that with the November election nearing, such disappointing aid outcomes potentially could affect their vote.

"It's pretty obvious that the rural agriculture communities helped elect this administration, but the way things are going, I believe farmers are going to have to vote with their checkbook when it comes time," said Kevin Skunes, a corn and soybean grower from Arthur, N.D., and president of the National Corn Growers Association.

Corn farmers get the smallest slice of the aid pie. Corn groups estimate a loss of 44 cents per bushel, but they're poised to receive just a single penny per bushel.

"If these issues haven't been resolved, there could be a change in the way farmers vote," Skunes said. "A person has to consider all things."

Farmers already are feeling the impact of Trump's trade tiffs with China and other countries. China has hit back hard, responding with its own set of tariffs on U.S. agricultural products and other goods.

The Trump administration is providing up to \$12 billion in emergency relief funds for American farmers, with roughly \$6 billion in an initial round. The three-pronged plan includes

\$4.7 billion in payments to corn, cotton, soybean, dairy, pork and sorghum farmers. The rest is for developing new foreign markets for American-grown commodities and purchasing more than two dozen select products, including certain fresh fruits and vegetables, nuts, meat and dairy.

Agriculture Secretary Sonny Perdue announced last month that soybean growers will get the largest checks, at \$1.65 per bushel for a total of \$3.6 billion. China is the world's leading buyer of American soybeans, purchasing roughly 60 percent of the U.S. crop. But since Beijing imposed a 25 percent tariff on soybeans, imports prices have plunged.

The lack of initial detail about how the calculations were made left farmers scratching their heads.

Asked about the confusion, Rob Johansson, the Agriculture Department's chief economist, responded that the USDA took into account a number of factors "including the share of production that is exported and the value of trade directly affected by the retaliatory tariffs."

"The level of damage is not the same for each commodity," he said in a written response to questions submitted by The Associated Press.

He estimated that there would be more than 784,000 applications for relief.

The USDA has since released a detailed analysis of how the department made its calculations.

The breakdown has stunned corn and wheat farmers, who say the payments are uneven and won't do much of anything to help keep struggling farms afloat.

A lobbying group that represents wheat growers is challenging the way the administration determined payments for wheat

farmers, who are set to receive 14 cents per bushel. Chandler Goule, CEO of the National Association of Wheat Growers, said the USDA assumed U.S. wheat would be sold to China this year when it made its calculations. But the assumption was flawed, he said.

China typically makes its requests for American wheat between March and June. U.S. wheat farmers have sold, on average, 20 million bushels of wheat to China during the past three years. But none came this year, Goule said, as Trump escalated his threatening rhetoric on trade with Beijing. He hopes the per-bushel rate for wheat goes up if there's a second round of payments.

"I am very certain that we will not sell any wheat to China this year," Goule said. "The window we sell in has come and gone."

The response among farmers has been mixed. While some are grateful for the help, most are eager for the trade disputes to be resolved quickly.

"Nobody wants to have an aid package. I mean, if you're a farmer you're in the business of producing a crop. We just want a fair price for it," said Joel Schreurs, a soybean-and-corn producer near Tyler in southwestern Minnesota who sits on the board of both the American Soybean Association and the Minnesota Soybean Growers Association.

His personal operation is about 1,000 acres. He farms an additional 500 acres with his son-in-law and other relatives. He estimates that the tariffs would cost him \$40,000 to \$50,000 in lost income and that he would get \$16,000 to \$20,000 in emergency aid.

Schreurs worries that it will be hard for farmers to get back the buyers they'll lose as a result of the trade wars. "And in the short term, we have to find another

home for those beans; otherwise, they're going to pile up and it will keep prices depressed," he said.

In the Midwest, growers typically farm both corn and soybeans. Those farmers would get payments for both under the program, which began sign-ups Sept. 4.

Perdue said checks could start going out as soon as the end of September for crops that already have been harvested; payouts are based on yield.

In a recent S-PAN interview, Perdue said he understands growers' frustrations.

"Farmers always live in unpredictable times," he said. "They're very resilient, but obviously the longer trade issues go on, the longer it bears on them regarding what is the future."

Jack Maloney said corn farmers will be getting so little in bailout aid that for roughly 200,000 bushels of corn a farmer would get only about \$2,000 for their losses.

"That's not even beer money," said the Brownsburg, Ind., rorer of corn and soybeans.

Maloney, 62, began farming full time in 1978 and now has two employees. He said some fellow farmers are angry and upset.

"Agriculture has always been the butt of all the trade wars," he said, adding that this isn't the first time he's seen trade disruptions affect the agricultural markets.

Maloney said he already had cut back on expenses during the past three years and hasn't taken a paycheck from his farm for more than a year because of tough times before the trade war began. He said the recent tumult has dashed hopes for stabilizing agricultural markets anytime soon.

"We were seeing a little light at the end of the tunnel — the markets were improving a little," he

said, "and then this tariff thing happened and this trade war."

Daniel Weinand worries the market downturn could be the death knell for his farm. Weinand, 30, grows corn, canola and yellow peas on 900 acres of rented land near Hazen, N.D. He said he expects to reap about 30,000 bushels of corn, and to receive about \$300 in aid.

"A penny a bushel on corn, it's not that it's entirely worthless, but it almost is," he said. "I don't know how many more years I can weather."

EXCHANGE RATES

Military rates	
Euro costs (Sept. 25)	\$1.2107
Dollar buys (Sept. 25)	€0.8260
British pound	¥135
Canadian (Dollar)	¥135
Chinese (Yuan)	¥85.80
Denmark (Krone)	€6.3223
Egypt (Pound)	£7.9144
French (Franc)	¥1,179.90
Hong Kong (Dollar)	7.8073
Hungary (Forint)	274.24
Iceland (Króna)	¥36.99
Japan (Yen)	112.60
Kuwait (Dinar)	¥0.3025
Norway (Krone)	8.1325
New Zealand (Dollar)	¥54.23
Poland (Złoty)	3.66
Saudi Arabia (Riyal)	3.7510
Switzerland (Franc)	¥1.1183
South Korean won (Sept. 25)	1,089.90

Commercial rates

Bahrain (Dinar)	0.3768
British pound	¥1.3146
Canada (Dollar)	¥1.35
Chinese (Yuan)	¥85.80
Denmark (Krone)	€6.3223
Egypt (Pound)	£7.9144
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(Military exchange rates are those available to customers at military banking facilities. Commercial rates are those available to customers at commercial banking facilities. Rates are subject to change. For example, the rate for purchasing British pounds in Germany), check with your local military banking facility or your local commercial bank for provided for reference when buying currency. All figures are foreign currencies converted to U.S. dollars, which is represented in dollars-to-pound, and the euro, which is dollars-to-euro.)

INTEREST RATES

Prime rate	5.00
Discount rate	2.50
Federal funds market rate	1.92
3-month bill	2.12
30-year bond	3.20

WEATHER OUTLOOK

TUESDAY IN THE MIDDLE EAST



TUESDAY IN EUROPE



WEDNESDAY IN THE PACIFIC



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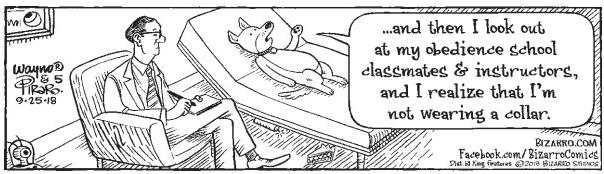
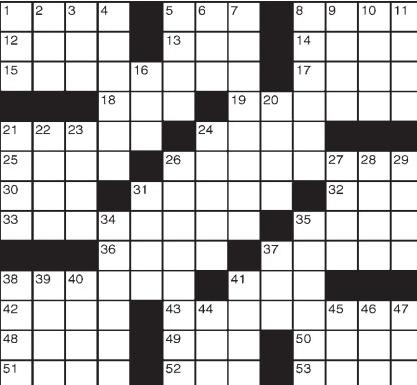
Carpe Diem



Beetle Bailey



Bizarro

**Eugene Sheffer Crossword****ACROSS**

- 1 Hawaiian island
5 Pen tip
8 Pop
12 Hunger symptom
13 Eggs
14 "Once — a time ..."
15 Assume, as a burden
17 Predicament
18 Sailor's assent
19 "Reckon so"
21 Stag
24 Luminary
25 Writer Ephron
26 Act conspicuously
30 "Rocks"
31 Reek
32 On a phone
33 Footwear storage unit
35 Proscrides
36 Active person
37 Skeleton components
38 Bacon pieces
41 Dazzle
42 Debtors' notes
43 Workers' jargon
48 Jules Verne captain
49 "A mouse!"
50 Nantes notion

DOWN

21 Blackbirds**22 Scottish lake****23 Black-and-white cookie****24 Less outgoing****26 Emphasized****27 Muscat's land****28 Novelist Rice****29 Throw****31 Halt****34 Prolific inventor****35 Pasta shape****37 Jazzy style****38 Trig function****39 Low digits****40 Kind of roast****41 Stirred****44 "Pst!"****45 Do sums****46 Started****47 Crucial****Answer to Previous Puzzle**

Z	I	P	S	T	U	B	S	P	E	W
A	D	O	A	I	S	L	E	A	P	E
P	O	L	A	R	B	E	A	R	P	I
E	P	A	R	E	M	E	R	E	N	T
D	E	P	A	R	E	S	E	R	E	T
O	S	U	E	A	T	S	A	B	E	R
L	A	N	D	N	A	B	L	A	R	A
L	U	C	I	A	G	S	A	G	A	G
H	O	D	S	C	H	A	S	T	E	T
L	E	B	R	O	N	K	O	N	E	N
O	V	O	P	O	T	B	O	I	L	E
N	W	T	R	E	A	T	A	W	E	N
E	Y	S	T	A	Y	S	D	E	B	E

9-25**CRYPTOQUIP**

G S U U S E P V D S R X A S V N

F Q Y H B Q L X Q A H B T S S R L G Q L

G Q D A X X F I T Q R R X V Z E P P S Z

D X Q L D ? Y X T N I G Q H T - Z E P P N .

Yesterday's Cryptoquip: WHAT DO YOU SUPPOSE GERMAN WHEAT FARMERS SHOULD SAY TO EACH OTHER BEFORE BED? "GLUTEN NACHT."

Today's Cryptoquip Clue: R equals M

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■ Vehicle buyers wanting to buy sight unseen and have the vehicle shipped through an agent using paypal.

■ People saying Free Dog (different breeds) for adoption.

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SPORTS BRIEFS/GOLF

No. 3 Clemson names Lawrence starting QB

CLEMSON, S.C. — Clemson has named freshman Trevor Lawrence its starting quarterback for the Tigers' game against Syracuse this Saturday.

Senior Kelly Bryant had started the third-ranked Tigers (4-0) first four games with Lawrence coming off the bench early in each contest.

The 6-foot-6 Lawrence has completed 39 of 60 passes for 600 yards, nine touchdowns and two interceptions.

AP source: Gionta set to retire after 16 seasons

BUFFALO, N.Y. — A person with direct knowledge of the decision tells The Associated Press that forward Brian Gionta is retiring after 16 NHL seasons.

Gionta is 39 and a former Montreal Canadiens and two-time U.S. Olympian. He won a Stanley Cup with the New Jersey Devils in 2003. Gionta had 291 goals and 595 points in 1,026 career games.

Stewart, Wilson propel US to win over China

SANTA CRUZ DE TENERIFE, Spain — Breanna Stewart scored 21 of her 23 points in the second half and Aja Wilson added 20 to help the United States beat China 100-88 on Sunday in the second day of the FIBA Women's Basketball World Cup.

The victory was the Americans' 18th in a row in the tournament and 43rd in the past 44 games in the World Cup. The only blemish over the past 20 years was a loss to Russia in the semifinals of the 2006 World Cup.

Players' union reiterates disapproval of US match

MADRID — The Spanish players' association remains against the league's plan to play in the United States.

The association was not convinced with the league's update and said Monday it will not be in favor of the Girona-Barcelona game planned for suburban Miami in January. The association's announcement comes three days after the Spanish soccer federation refused to give it an approval for the match, putting the plan in serious doubt.

From The Associated Press

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MLB

Allen helps delay Red Sox record

BY STEVE HERRICK

Associated Press

CLEVELAND — The Boston Red Sox are trying to make history. The Cleveland Indians keep getting in the way.

And after a highly competitive three-game series, the teams could see each other again next month with even more at stake.

Greg Allen singled with one out and the bases loaded in the 11th inning and Cleveland defeated the Red Sox 4-3 on Sunday night to deny Boston's bid for a club-record 106th victory for the second straight game.

Allen singled through the left side on a 3-2 pitch from Robby Scott to give Cleveland an 11th inning win for the second night in a row.

"If that game was in a couple of weeks, that'd be one for the ages," manager Terry Francona said. "It's going to be a late night, but it was a fun game."

William Cuevas (0-2) walked leadoff man Jose Ramirez, who moved to second on Rajai Davis' sacrifice. Shortstop Tzu-Wei Lin, who replaced the injured Xander Bogaerts in the seventh, booted Erik Gonzalez's ground ball, sending Ramirez to third.

Yandy Diaz, batting for Yonder Alonso, was intentionally walked to load the bases and set the stage for Allen's winning hit. Michael Brantley's bases-loaded single gave the AL Central winners a 5-4 victory in the 11th on Saturday night.

Allen raced toward the outfield after he rounded first to avoid getting pounded by his teammates, a strategy that was unsuccessful.

"I don't think there's any getting away from that," he said. "In a time like that, when it's cel-



TOM E. PUSKAR/AP

The Indians' Greg Allen celebrates as he runs to first on his game-winning single in the eleventh inning Sunday against the Red Sox in Cleveland. Cleveland won 4-3.

ebatory, I really don't want to get away from it. It was definitely fun."

Josh Tomlin (2-5) pitched two scoreless innings for the Indians, who won the after a 7-5 loss Friday.

Mooker Betts homered and had four hits in his return to the lineup, but the Red Sox will also have to wait at least one more day before wrapping the home-field advantage throughout the postseason.

Betts, who didn't play Friday and Saturday,

hit his 31st homer in the fifth to tie the game after Cleveland scored three times in the fourth. He had four hits, a three-run homer and five RBIs on Thursday against the New York Yankees when Boston clinched the AL East.

Betts, who leads the majors with a .343 batting average, started the game with a double off the wall in left. He singled in the third and doubled again in the seventh.

Betts played right field for the first time in a week. He's been dealing with soreness in his left side and was the DL twice last week.

"Hitting was never really the issue, it was just throwing," Betts said. "Fortunately, I didn't have to many long throws, so today was a really good day."

Edwin Encarnacion got his 100th RBI of the season with a fourth-inning single, reaching the century mark for the fourth straight year.

Melky Cabrera's two-run double off Steven Wright put Cleveland ahead 3-2.

Bogaerts was removed during his at-bat in the seventh inning because of a sore left shoulder. He fouled off a pitch and was visited by manager Alex Cora and a team trainer. Bogaerts walked to the dugout after a lengthy conversation and is listed as day to day.

"I felt a pinch after I took an awkward swing, the last two swings actually," he said. "It's nothing now. I'm fine. There's nothing wrong."

Right-hander Hector Velazquez started for Boston and gave up two runs in 3 1/5 innings.

Cleveland starter Adam Plutko allowed three runs in six innings.



FRANK FRANKLIN II/AP

The Yankees' Didi Gregorius wore a brace on his wrist on Saturday, and could miss the start of the playoffs.

Yanks get bad news after loss

BY MIKE FITZPATRICK

Associated Press

NEW YORK — The playoff-bound Yankees blew a three-run lead against the worst team in the majors Sunday — and then came the really bad news.

New York shortstop Didi Gregorius has torn cartilage in his right wrist and is unsure whether he will be able to play in the AL wild-card game Oct. 3. Gregorius, who has 27 homers and 86 RBIs, got injured Saturday when he slid headfirst into Aaron Hicks' 11th-inning double to score the run that clinched a postseason berth for the Yankees.

"It feels a little bit better now," Gregorius said after missing a 6-3 loss to the Baltimore Orioles in New York's final home game of the regular season. "I slid into home plate, my right hand got stuck. We were celebrating, everything was fine. I went home, fine. I woke up this morning, it wasn't feeling good."

Gregorius had an MRI that revealed a small tear, he said. He received a cortisone shot and will be re-evaluated soon.

"We'll know a lot more in a few days," manager Aaron Boone said.

Gregorius said the injury is "really frustrating" but he has some mobility in his wrist and is very optimistic he'll play in the postseason. New York has seven regular-season games remaining and is trying to secure home-field advantage in the wild-card game.

"They say things like this happen to other players but some of them play them it," Gregorius said, explaining he feels soreness but not sharp pain.

Tim Beckham homered twice for the lowly Orioles, who trailed 3-0 early.

J.A. Happ needed 107 pitches to get through five innings in a possible tuneup for the wild-card game. Happ allowed only one run, but A.J. Cole (3-1) quickly coughed up a 3-1 lead in the sixth as the Yankees rested their best relievers.

Baltimore (45-110) remained one loss shy of matching the franchise record for defeats set by the 1939 St. Louis Browns, who went 43-111.

Roundup

Kemp short of cycle as LA routs Padres

Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Matt Kemp is used to being an everyday player. With so much talent on the Dodgers, though, he's had to adjust to not seeing his name in the lineup as often.

"Does he like it?" manager Dave Roberts said. "Probably not, but he understands."

Kemp is just happy to be playing baseball that matters in September, after being on teams in San Diego and Atlanta that missed the playoffs in recent years.

"This doesn't get old," he said after NL West-leading Los Angeles pounded out 16 hits in a 14-0 rout of the San Diego Padres on Sunday. "I'm excited about what's to come."

The Dodgers' division lead remained at 1 1/2 games over Colorado, which won 2-0 at Arizona.

The Dodgers finished their home slate at 44-37. They are 87-69 overall with six games remaining and would need to surpass the NL East champion Atlanta Braves (88-68) to earn a home-field advantage in the NL Division Series.

Kemp went 3-for-4 — falling a triple shy of the cycle — drove in three runs and scored two on his 34th birthday. Fans in right field serenaded him by singing "Happy Birthday."

"I haven't had a triple all year," he said. "That would have been cool."

Twins 5, Athletics 1: Oakland

will have to take its bubbly on the road. Kyle Gibson (9-13) allowed one run over 7 1/2 innings and Jake Cave hit a two-run homer for Minnesota, which prevented the Athletics from clinching an AL wild-card berth in their last regular-season home game.

Rays 5, Blue Jays 2: Blake Snell (21-5) won his ninth straight start, striking out 11 in 6 2/3 shutout innings. He broke the visiting Rays season record for wins set by David Price in 2012 and lowered his ERA to 1.90, the best in the AL.

Cubs 6, White Sox 1: Kyle Schwarber connected off Carlos Rodon (6-7) for his first homer against a left-hander this season and drove in two runs.

Cubs 6, White Sox 1: Kyle Schwarber connected off Carlos Rodon (6-7) for his first homer against a left-hander this season and drove in two runs.

Astros 13, Pirates 6: Christian Yelich hit his 32nd home run and Travis Shaw added his 31st as host Milwaukee remained two games ahead of St. Louis, which is second in the NL wild-card race.

Cardinals 9, Giants 2: Miles Mikolas (17-4) won his fourth straight start, allowing two runs — one earned — and two hits in seven innings with eight strikeouts and no walks for host St. Louis. John Brebbia and Giovanny Gallegos finished a five-hitter.

Rockies 2, Diamondbacks 0: Kyle Freeland (16-7) allowed seven hits in seven innings, improving to 7-0 in his last 10 starts for host Colorado. Arizona lost for the seventh time in eight games



JOSE SANCHEZ/AP

The Dodgers' Matt Kemp drives in two runs with a single against the Padres on Sunday in Los Angeles. Los Angeles won 14-0.

and was eliminated from contention in the NL West and wild-card races.

Astros 6, Angels 2: Charlie Morton left after one inning and 24 pitches because of discomfort in his pitching shoulder that caused a drop in velocity.

Braves 2, Phillies 1: Lane Adams homered and drove in two runs, and Anibal Sanchez (7-6) won for the first time in nine starts. Sanchez allowed one run and four hits in five innings.

Rangers 6, Mariners 1: Adrian Beltre was given a standing ovation when he was removed from what could be his last home game for Texas, just before the Rangers

rallied for four runs in the sixth to overcome a 1-0 deficit.

Marlins 6, Reds 0: A crowd of 13,595 left Miami with a franchise-low home attendance of 811,104 in Derek Jeter's first season as chief executive officer, the first major league team to draw fewer than 1 million fans at home since the 2004 Montreal Expos.

Mets 8, Nationals 6: Michael Conforto hit a go-ahead, bases-loaded triple in the fourth off Wander Suero (3-1), and Jeff McNeil matched a career high with four hits in as many at-bats since his big league debut on July 24 for visiting New York.

MLB SCOREBOARD

American League

American League						
East Division			West Division			
	W	L	Pct	GB	W	L
x-Boston	105	51	.671			
y-New York	60	61	.513	9/5		
Toronto	87	85	.500			
Baltimore	111	85	.455	.327		
Central Division	73	88	.459	.290	59/9	
x-Cleveland	68	56	.561			
Minnesota	73	63	.465	15		
Chicago	61	94	.394	.262		
Kansas City	102	74	.346	33/3		
x-Houston	98	57	.632			
Detroit	62	67	.466	.412		
Seattle	75	60	.481	23/3		
Los Angeles	75	81	.481	23/3		
Texas	66	89	.426	.32		

National League

National League						
East Division			West Division			
	W	L	Pct	GB	W	L
x-Atlanta	98	57	.632			
Philadelphia	77	73	.503	9/4		
Washington	78	78	.500	10		
New York	63	82	.406	15		
Miami	62	92	.405	15		
Central Division	96	91	.420	.26		
Chicago	68	56	.561			
Milwaukee	89	67	.571	2/2		
St. Louis	87	69	.558	4/2		
Cincinnati	96	91	.420	.26		
West Division	85	70	.558	1/2		
Arizona	75	70	.565	8		
San Francisco	72	84	.444	10/2		
San Diego	64	92	.397	.25		
x-clinched division x-clinched wild card						
Baltimore	91	66	.587			
Milwaukee at Boston						
St. Louis at Cincinnati						
Cincinnati at Milwaukee						
West						
Los Angeles	85	70	.558	1/2		
Colorado	85	70	.558	1/2		
Arizona	75	70	.565	8		
San Diego	64	92	.397	.25		
Brewer pitched to 3 in the 7th W/P—Lucchesi, T.—3:11, A.-50,250 (56,000).						

Mets 8, Nationals 6

Mets 8, Nationals 6								
New York			Washington					
	ab	r	h	b1	ab	r	h	b1
A-Rioja ss	3	0	1	0	V.Britts lf	2	2	2
J.Williams 3b	5	2	4	1	R.Brown lf	3	1	1
C.Infielder cf	3	0	0	0	A.Rodriguez 1b	1	0	0
Bruce rcf	3	0	0	0	S.Perez 1b	0	0	0
Br.Off. 1b	3	0	0	0	A.Schroeder ss	2	1	2
Br.Off. 2b	3	0	0	0	R.Harrigan 3b	4	1	2
Br.Off. 3b	3	0	0	0	H.Castro 2b	0	0	0
Br.Off. 4b	3	0	0	0	G.Greinke p	0	0	0
Br.Off. 5b	3	0	0	0	J.Kosma 1b	0	0	0
Br.Off. 6b	3	0	0	0	A.Duclaud ph	0	0	0
Br.Off. 7b	3	0	0	0	J.Kosma 1b	0	0	0
Br.Off. 8b	3	0	0	0	J.Kosma 1b	0	0	0
Br.Off. 9b	3	0	0	0	J.Kosma 1b	0	0	0
Br.Off. 10b	3	0	0	0	J.Kosma 1b	0	0	0
Br.Off. 11b	3	0	0	0	J.Kosma 1b	0	0	0
Br.Off. 12b	3	0	0	0	J.Kosma 1b	0	0	0
Br.Off. 13b	3	0	0	0	J.Kosma 1b	0	0	0
Br.Off. 14b	3	0	0	0	J.Kosma 1b	0	0	0
Br.Off. 15b	3	0	0	0	J.Kosma 1b	0	0	0
Br.Off. 16b	3	0	0	0	J.Kosma 1b	0	0	0
Br.Off. 17b	3	0	0	0	J.Kosma 1b	0	0	0
Br.Off. 18b	3	0	0	0	J.Kosma 1b	0	0	0
Br.Off. 19b	3	0	0	0	J.Kosma 1b	0	0	0
Br.Off. 20b	3	0	0	0	J.Kosma 1b	0	0	0
Br.Off. 21b	3	0	0	0	J.Kosma 1b	0	0	0
Br.Off. 22b	3	0	0	0	J.Kosma 1b	0	0	0
Br.Off. 23b	3	0	0	0	J.Kosma 1b	0	0	0
Br.Off. 24b	3	0	0	0	J.Kosma 1b	0	0	0
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Br.Off. 121b	3	0	0	0	J.Kosma 1b</			

NFL

Wentz rallies Eagles to win over Colts

PHILADELPHIA — Carson Wentz eluded defenders, scrambled, threw his body around and played the same way he has throughout his career.

He's all the way back.

Playing his first game since he tore two ligaments in his left knee last Dec. 10, Wentz had no fear and no hesitation, even on a wet, soggy field. He threw a touchdown pass to Dallas Goedert on his first drive and engineered a go-ahead score in the fourth quarter as the Philadelphia Eagles held on for a 20-16 victory over the Indianapolis Colts on Sunday.

"I don't want to put restrictions on him," coach Doug Pederson said. "I don't want to put him in bubble wrap."

Wentz took five sacks but escaped a few more on three scrambles. He also extended plays with his legs, including a clutch 10-yard pass to Nelson Agholor on third-and-9 on the decisive drive. He didn't mind taking hits and wasn't afraid to dive headfirst out of bounds on a run.

"It felt like riding a bike, get hit and pop back up again," he said.

"It was normal."

Adam Vinatieri provided most of the scoring for Indianapolis, which couldn't take advantage of two turnovers by Wentz inside the 20 in the second half. Vinatieri tied Morten Andersen's career record of 565 field goals by connecting on all three tries.

"I like to step out there and kick field goals," Vinatieri said, "but it's better kicking extra points, that's for sure."

The defending Super Bowl champion Eagles (2-1) needed two defensive stops against Andrew Luck in the final 90 seconds to secure the win.

Derek Barnett sacked Luck for a 16-yard loss on fourth down from the 4.

"We just wanted to collapse the pocket and put as much pressure on Luck as possible," Barnett said. "We just keep rushing and playing fast."

Eagles 20, Colts 16

Indianapolis 7 0 3 5 — 20
Philadelphia 7 3 5 — 26
First Quarter

Phi—Goedert 13 pass from Wentz (Elliott kick), 7:10.

Ind—Seals 5 pass from Luck (Vinatieri kick), 24.

Second Quarter

Phi—FG Elliott 25, 39:41.
Ind—FG Vinatieri 35, 8:23.

Third Quarter

Ind—FG Vinatieri 28, 14:20.
Phi—Smallwood 4 run (Elliott kick), 3:02.

A—69,696.

First down 14 Ind 14 Phi 26

Rushes-Yards 209 376

Passing 136 35-152

Passing-Yards 141 227

Kickoff Returns 1 2

Kickoff Returns-Yards 2-35 2-33

Interceptions Ret. 1-11 0

Comp-Att-Int 25-10 23-9

Sacked-Yards-Loss 2-33 2-27

Fumbles-Lost 2-3 5-8

Punts 5-44-4 3-42-7

Fumbles-Lost 10-11 10-10

Penalties-Yards 11-77 19-40

Time of Possession 40:40 40:20

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING— Indianapolis, Luck 1-33, Watkins 6-19, Hines 5-18, M. Johnson 1 (minus), D. Johnson 1, S. Johnson 1, Clement 16-56, J. Adams 6-30, Wenzel 3-10.

PASSING— Indianapolis, Luck 25-40-0, 154 yards, 1 TD, 1 INT, 0-0 FG.

12-31, Rosen 1-12, Edmonds 5-10.

RECEIVING— Indianapolis, Hines 5-50, Ebron 7-45, Hines 5-25, Grant 3-28, Rogers 2-14, Wilkins 2-1, Swaine 1-1, Pascal 1-1, Kelly 1 (minus). 4, Philadelphia, Goedert 10-135, Agholor 1-10, S. Johnson 1-35, Fitzerelli 2-9, Seals-Jones 1-35, Coleman 1-21, Gresham 1-9, Williams 1-8.

PUNCHED FIELD GOALS— Philadelphia

Elliott 55.

MISSSED FIELD GOALS— Chicago, Par-



JOHN FROSCHAUER/AP

Seahawks free safety Earl Thomas, left, reaches for a pass he intercepted that was intended for Cowboys tight end Blake Jarwin, right, as teammate Bobby Wagner, center, hits Jarwin in the fourth quarter on Sunday in Seattle. The pick was Thomas' second of the game.

Bears ride defense; QB change picks pace Seahawks

GLENDALE, Ariz. — Defense did it again for Chicago, and the Bears escaped with a 16-14 win.

"Turnovers, takeaways and stopping the run," Bears coach Matt Nagy said. "... For our defense, three weeks in a row they've done some special things."

The Cardinals, 0-3 for the first time since 2004, may have a new quarterback, too.

Rookie Josh Rosen made his NFL debut in relief of Sam Bradford late in the game.

"I felt like we needed a spark," Wilks said. "We got off to an early start, 14 points, got a little stagnant there and wanted to spark the team."

Prescott was intercepted twice by Thomas, including with 3:09 remaining at the Seattle 15.

The Seattle Seahawks returned to a familiar, old formula to avoid a dreaded 0-3 start.

"This is how we want to play. We couldn't be any more specific about it," Seattle coach Pete Carroll said.

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Wilson picks 2 TDs, Thomas picks pace Seahawks

SEATTLE — Chris Carson dished out punishing runs. Russell Wilson made smart, decisive throws at key moments. A defense led by Bobby Wagner and an unhappy Earl Thomas forced turnovers, making Dak Prescott and Dallas look meager trying to move the ball.

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The Seattle Seahawks returned to a familiar, old formula to avoid a dreaded 0-3 start.

Flacco shines as Ravens deal Broncos first loss

BALTIMORE — Baltimore's offensive line handled Von Miller, Joe Flacco took care of the football, and the Ravens sliced through Denver's depleted defense.

Flacco found the time to throw for 277 yards and a touchdown, and the Ravens pushed aside the previously undefeated Broncos.

Baltimore got 68 yards running from Alex Collins, but the line's biggest contribution was giving Flacco time to throw against a defense led by Miller.

"That's a stout run defense. We kept hammering in there and bled some yards," Ravens coach John Harbaugh said. "But our pass protection really stepped up and did a great job."

Ravens 27, Broncos 14

Oakland 14 10 0 7 0—28
Baltimore 0 0 7 7 0—28

First Quarter

Den—Freeman 5 run (Manus kick), 12:29.
Bal—Freeman 5 run (Manus kick), 12:29.

Second Quarter

Den—Freeman 5 run (Manus kick), 12:29.
Bal—Freeman 5 run (Manus kick), 12:29.

Third Quarter

Den—Freeman 5 run (Manus kick), 12:29.
Bal—Freeman 5 run (Manus kick), 12:29.

Fourth Quarter

Den—Freeman 5 run (Manus kick), 12:29.
Bal—Freeman 5 run (Manus kick), 12:29.

Individual Statistics

RUSHING— Denver, C. Johnson 12-31, Rosen 1-12, Edmonds 5-10.

PASSING— Denver, C. Johnson 12-31, Rosen 1-12, Edmonds 5-10.

RECEIVING— Denver, C. Johnson 12-31, Rosen 1-12, Edmonds 5-10.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING— Denver, C. Johnson 12-31, Rosen 1-12, Edmonds 5-10.

PASSING— Denver, C. Johnson 12-31, Rosen 1-12, Edmonds 5-10.

RECEIVING— Denver, C. Johnson 12-31, Rosen 1-12, Edmonds 5-10.

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NFL

Defense takes day off in Saints' OT win over Falcons

Teams combine for 941 yards in shootout

By CHARLES ODUM
Associated Press

ATLANTA — The Saints and Falcons saw much to like about their new and old stars on offense.

Each team's defensive worries continue to grow.

Drew Brees' 1-yard scoring run capped an 80-yard touchdown drive in overtime that lifted New Orleans to a 43-37 win over Atlanta on Sunday.

The two teams combined for 941 yards, so it was no surprise overtime was a one-possession affair. Once the Saints won the coin toss, they weren't giving up the ball, and the Falcons' depleted defense couldn't muster a stand.

"Anytime you give the ball to our offense and we have as many weapons on our offense as we do, you're not worried," said Saints defensive end Cameron Jordan, who had two sacks. "Ain't no problem. Ain't no problem."

Brees became the NFL's career leader in completed passes, passing Brett Favre.

Brees passed for 393 yards and three touchdowns. He added two scoring runs, including a 7-yarder late in the fourth quarter to force the overtime.

The Saints (2-1) finished with 534 yards. Alvin Kamara had 15 catches for 124 yards and ran for 66 yards.

The Falcons (1-2) also had ample offense as Matt Ryan had his first career game with five scoring passes. Calvin Ridley became the first Atlanta rookie with three scoring catches.

Rams 35, Chargers 23

L.A. Chargers 6 7 14 0 —35
L.A. Rams 6 7 14 0 —35

First Quarter

La—Gurley 1 run (Ficken kick), 6:14.
La—M.Williams 42 pass from Rivers (Ficken kick), 1:51.
La—Woods 3 pass from Goff (Ficken kick), 5:51.

Second Quarter

La—Countee 8 blocked punt return (Ficken kick), 7:44.
La—Gordon 11 run (Sturgis kick), 3:12.

Third Quarter

La—Kupp 53 pass from Goff (Ficken kick), 12:28.
La—M.Williams 20 pass from Rivers (Sturgis kick), 8:18.
La—Allen 6 pass from Goff (Ficken kick), 3:19.

Fourth Quarter

La—Gordon 26, 11:49.
La—68,947.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING—Los Angeles, Gordon 15-80, Ekeler 4-47, Ty Williams 1-14, Los Angeles 1-1. Atlanta, Gurley 20-103, Ridley 14-43, Woods 3-13, Kupp 1-(minus 5).

PASSING—**Los Angeles**, Rivers 18-30-26, 354 yards, 29-38% TD-INT, 7.75. **RECEIVING**—**Los Angeles**, M.Williams 4-81, Gates 3-45, Kallen 3-44, Ekeler 3-24, Williams 2-2, Gordon 2-24, Green 1. **LOS ANGELES**—Woods 10-16, 71 yards; Gurley 5-51, Kupp 4-71, Higbee 2-35, Evans 1.

MISSSED FIELD GOALS—**Los Angeles**, Ficken 46.



CURTIS COMPTON, ATLANTA JOURNAL-CONSTITUTION/AP

New Orleans Saints quarterback Drew Brees goes over the top for the game-winning touchdown to beat the Falcons 43-37 in overtime on Sunday in Atlanta.

Ryan passed for 374 yards, including 146 to Ridley, who had seven receptions, including a 75-yard TD. Julio Jones had five catches for 96 yards.

Ridley beat P.J. Williams on his first two scoring catches, an 18-yarder in the first quarter and the 75-yarder in the second quarter.

The Saints made a defensive

switch, moving Ken Crawley into coverage on Ridley. Crawley was called for pass interference on a deep incompletion to Ridley early in the third quarter that gave Atlanta a first down at the New Orleans 5. On second down from the 9, Ridley's third scoring catch gave the Falcons a 21-16 lead.

"You can't have guys running through the defense, guys like

Julio Jones," said Saints coach Sean Payton. "But we got some of the key stops when we needed it."

An Atlanta defense which already was playing without injured starters Keanu Neal, Deion Jones and Takk McKinley saw safety Ricardo Allen leave with what was announced as a calf injury early in the overtime. Allen held his lower left leg on the field

Saints 43, Falcons 37 (OT)

New Orleans 7 9 7 16 6—43
Atlanta 7 7 7 16 8—43

First Quarter

No—Ginn 4 pass from Brees (Lutz kick). At—Ridley 18 pass from Ryan (Bryant kick), 2:43.

Second Quarter

No—FG Lutz 49, 9:37.
No—FG Lutz 49, 1:59.
At—Ridley 75 pass from Ryan (Bryant kick), 2:12.

Third Quarter

At—Ridley 9 pass from Ryan (Bryant kick), 12:05.
No—Merideth 11 pass from Brees (Lutz kick), 6:07.

Fourth Quarter

At—T.Coleman 5 pass from Ryan (Hooper pass from Ryan), 14:11.
At—Ridley 1 pass from Brees (Lutz kick), 9:59.

Overtime

At—Sanui 5 pass from Ryan (Sanu kick), 11:15.
No—Brees 7 run (Lutz kick), 1:15.

Overtime

No—Brees 1 run, 2:55.
A—74,457.

AH

NO	AH
First downs	32
Total Net Yards	532
Rushes-Yards	27-143
Passes-Yards	39-309
Punt Returns	3-16
Kickoff Returns	3-64
Penalties-Yards	4-50
Comp-Att-Int	39-49-0
Sacked-Yards Lost	4-50-5
Fumbles-Lost	1-0
Penalties-Yards	11-0
Turnovers	3-745

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING—New Orleans, Brees 29-49-0, 180 yards, 4.7 yards per carry.

RECEIVING—New Orleans, Kamara 15-66, Thomas 3-19, Gillislee 20, Gillislee 3-12, Watson 10-19, Watson 1-1, Gordon 15-33, Gordon 1-1, Atlanta, Ridley 7-146, Jones 5-96, Sanu 3-46, Smith 3-41, Smith 1-23, T.Coleman 2-14, Paulsen 1-11, Hall 1-1.

PASSING

NEW ORLEANS, Brees 39-49-0, 380 yards, 7.7 yards per carry.

ATLANTA, Ryan 27-35-0, 340 yards, 9.7 yards per carry.

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

16-66, Thomas 3-19, Gillislee 20, Gillislee 3-12, Watson 10-19, Watson 1-1, Atlanta, Ridley 7-146, Jones 5-96, Sanu 3-46, Smith 3-41, Smith 1-23, T.Coleman 2-14, Paulsen 1-11, Hall 1-1.

HIGHLIGHTS

MISSED FIELD GOALS—None.

before he was helped to the sideline and then driven on a cart to the locker room.

"I don't want to speculate too much, but it was serious enough that he was down for the game," said Falcons coach Dan Quinn.

Ryan's five touchdown passes tied the team record set by Wade Wilson on Dec. 13, 1992, at Tampa Bay.

Rams knock off Chargers in 'Battle for Los Angeles'

By GREG BEACHAM
Associated Press

LOS ANGELES — Jared Goff made pinpoint throws and Todd Gurley pounded away on the ground behind their dominant line. The Rams' offense racked up more than 500 yards for the first time since 2006.

And Los Angeles' first crosstown NFL showdown in nearly 24 years still wasn't decided until the final minutes, when the Chargers just couldn't catch up to their prolific counterparts.

The Rams essentially proved they're the best team in LA with a 35-23 victory Sunday, but they don't think the Chargers are far behind. This first meeting since relocation with mutual respect and plenty of work to do.

"You could tell it was an emotional game," Rams left tackle Andrew Whitworth said. "It meant a lot to LA. I don't know about bragging rights. I think that will come when a team has a great season and does something great with their team."

After three games, the Rams (3-0) appear poised to do something very big indeed.

Cory Littleton blocked a punt in the end

zone and Blake Countess recovered it for an early touchdown before the Rams piled up 521 yards in the most abundant game of coach Sean McVay's remarkable tenure. The Rams are one of four unbeaten teams left in the NFL, winning their three games by a combined 66 points.

"It felt like a good rivalry," said Goff, who went 29-for-36 for 354 yards and three touchdowns. "I think you could feel the crowd. You could tell there were two sides in here. Ultimately I think we had a little bit more, being at home, but you could definitely feel it. I think they are a great team, we're a great team, and hopefully that can continue for a long time."

Two seasons after the Rams kicked off professional football's return to the nation's second-largest market after 21 years away, they got their first meeting with the Chargers, who moved last year. Both teams put on an entertaining show for a Coliseum crowd of 68,947 containing a surprisingly significant turnout of Chargers fans, but the Rams' offensive brilliance kept them ahead all day.

"Is it a rivalry?" mused Gurley, who rushed for 105 yards and a score. "The fans usually [decide] what's a rivalry."



MARK J. TERRILL/AP

Rams running back Todd Gurley breaks away from Los Angeles Chargers defensive back Derwin James on Sunday in Los Angeles.

NFL



BRUCE KLUCKHORN/AP

Buffalo Bills defensive back Micah Hyde (23) breaks up a two-point conversion pass intended for Minnesota Vikings tight end Kyle Rudolph, rear, during the second half Sunday in Minneapolis.

Underdog Bills shock QB Cousins, Vikings

By DAVE CAMPBELL
Associated Press

MINNEAPOLIS — With Minnesota facing fourth-and-1 at the Buffalo 26, Kirk Cousins pivoted left and passed to fullback C.J. Ham in the flat near the first-down marker.

The throw early in the fourth quarter was on target as Ham began to head up the field, but safety Micah Hyde quickly closed in to take him down and knock the ball loose for an incompletion right in front of the Bills sideline.

Coches and players jubilantly jumped to celebrate Hyde's play, as if the turnover on downs was a pivotal moment in a tight game. No, the Bills actually led 27-0 at that point. They were simply enjoying the spoils of a stunningly lopsided victory, after two rough games to start the season.

Josh Allen played the voice of a well-seasoned quarterback by accounting for three touchowns for the Bills in his first road start in the NFL, making Cousins look like the raw rookie in a 27-6 upset of the Vikings on Sunday afternoon.

"We've got a very talented group, a group that I trust, and I love these guys," Allen said. "I'm excited to keep moving forward with them."

Outscored 75-9 over their first six quarters while losing to Baltimore and bumbling through the first half against San Diego, the Bills had a 41-9 advantage over their last six periods. They scored on only five of 26 drives over their first two games. Against the Vikings (1-1), the Bills (1-2) turned each of their first five possessions into points and dominated so thoroughly that they finished with six straight punts and still never had the outcome even close to being in question.

All that in a game featuring the Vikings as a 16½-point favorite. The Bills became the first underdog in a betting spread of that size or bigger to win since Washington beat Dallas in 1995.

Welcome to the NFL.

"It doesn't matter what their record was or our record," Vikings running back Latavius Murray said. "None of that matters. Every week, you're going to get a team that's doing all they can to get it right. You have to give them credit."

Here are some other key developments from the game:

Ball is loose: After Cousins threw for three touchdowns in the fourth quarter last week at Green Bay to forge a tie and finish with 425 passing yards, the Bills brought a secondary that was ripe for picking on. With the sudden return of Vonnie Davis and a dislocated elbow for Phillip Gaines, the Bills put Ryan Lewis in the starting lineup at cornerback in his NFL debut after a practice squad promotion.

The downfield coverage held up just fine, but Cousins didn't have much time to look anyway.

Cousins had three turnovers, including a third-down sack that resulted in a fumble to end each of Minnesota's first two drives.

Bills 27, Vikings 6

Buffalo 17 10 0 6—27
Minnesota 10 0 0 6—6

First Quarter
Buf—Allen 10 (Hauschka kick).
10:01
Buf—FO Hauschka 30, 7:24.
Buf—Crosen 36 pass from Allen (Hauschka kick). 5:09.

Second Quarter
Buf—Allen 10 (Hauschka kick). 12:14.
Buf—FO Hauschka 50, 6:16.

Fourth Quarter
Min—Rudolph 20 pass from Cousins (pass failed). 2:59.
A—66,800.

Buf 16 21
Total Net Yards 38 54
Passing 164 238
Pass Returns 1-13 1-0
Kicker Returns 0 4-0
Interceptions Ret. 0-0 0-0
Comp-Att-Miss 15-22-0 40-55-1
Sack-Yards Lost 2-2 2-2
Punts 6-43.2 5-51.8
Fumbles-Lost 3-0 4-2
Penalties-Yards 15-34 15-34
Time of Possession 35:35 24:15

INDIVIDUAL STATISTICS

RUSHING— Allen, 10; Morris, 14. **RECEIVING—** Allen, 10-33, M.Murphy 8-33, Minnesota, 2-21; Cousins 2-2, Murry 2-1.

PASSING— Buffalo, Allen, 16-22-0, 190.

MISCELLANEOUS— Interception, 1-0.

RECEIVING— Kyle Rudolph, 10-30.

DEFENSIVE— Vikings, 10-29.

RECEIVING— Sam Bradford, 1-2, 7:23.

PASSING— San Francisco, 20-31, 243-314.

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SPORTS



Stalling history

Indians keep Red Sox from notching franchise-best 106th win » **Page 26**

GOLF

AP



He's back

The shirt. The crowds. The win. Make no mistake — ‘Tigermania’ has returned

BY DOUG FERGUSON
Associated Press

Tiger Woods, in his Sunday red shirt, both arms raised in victory on the 18th green. For so long, the scene was familiar. This time, it was surreal.

ATLANTA

‘I can't believe I pulled this off.’

on winning the Tour Championship on Sunday, his first victory in over five years

“I can't believe I pulled this off,” Woods said Sunday during the trophy presentation at the Tour Championship, where he gave thousands of de-

lirious fans at East Lake, and millions more around the world, what they wanted to see, and what they thought they might never see again.

And at that moment, Woods was overcome with emotion and paused.

After two back surgeries six weeks apart, he couldn't lie down, sit or walk without pain. Golf was the least of his concerns, so much that he once said anything else he achieved would be “gravy.”

SEE WIN ON PAGE 25

By the numbers: Woods' victory was his first since August 2013 — 1,876 days, to be exact. He is second with 80 career wins.

Saints win shootout with Falcons on Brees' OT touchdown » **Page 30**

Lions RB Johnson hits century mark in victory over Patriots » **Page 31**



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